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MOBILE CLASSROOM ORDERED BUT DELAYS COULD HIT YOUNGEST School head furious over last-minute 'extra' class

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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A DISGRUNTLED headteacher has hit out at education bosses after he was given just two weeks' notice that his school would have to take an extra class for this September.

In a letter to parents, Richard Sutton-Smith, head of Claremont Primary School in Banner Farm Road, Tunbridge Wells, says Kent County Council has been "reacting to an immediate problem" rather than actively planning the permanent expansion of some schools to meet increasing demand for places.

He said the local authority would provide the school with a mobile classroom, subject to planning, and funding for the extra pupils to start in September. But he warned if that was not in place in time, younger children would have to delay starting school until January.

The letter is seen as evidence of a wider problem with planning for primary school places at KCC.

Sarah Hohler, KCC's cabinet member for education, blamed the economic downturn for an increase of eight per cent more parents applying for state primary schools in Tunbridge Wells rather than sending their children to private schools.

She said the local authority had forecast that there would be pressure on reception places in

Continued on page two



RETURN OF THE DRAGONS

Full story – see inside

Barbie's new book

FORMER Miss England Katrina Hodge – better known as Combat Barbie – has revealed how she stared down the barrel of a gun pointed at her by an Iraqi prisoner, before single-handedly disarming him.

The Tunbridge Wells soldier and beauty queen revealed the terrifying experience during her time on the frontline in her autobiography, *Combat to Catwalk*.

FULL STORY – PAGE 3

Out with the old

AS the opening date of the new 'super hospital' at Pembury edges ever closer, demolition work has got under way on the old site.

It marks the end of an era for the buildings, which are being levelled to make way for new facilities.

FULL STORY – PAGE 3

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Parking meeting

PETITIONERS have welcomed reassurances from councillors that a town centre car park will not be developed without a full investigation of the spaces available for people driving into Tunbridge Wells.

More than 1,200 people signed a petition, launched by department store Hoopers, to save Great Hall car park, triggering an extraordinary council meeting to debate the future of the site.

After the meeting last Wednesday evening, Tanya Kavanagh-Lewis, the store's assistant general manager, said: "We were surprised and pleased with the strength of feeling residents had on the proposal via the petition."

"At the meeting the councillors recognised people's concerns, and we were pleased to be reassured that there will be no progression on this project until a full and thorough investigation into the Urban Parking Strategy for Tunbridge Wells was completed."

Petitioners expressed concerns about losing the 250 in-demand spaces and the impact it will have on the lower end of town. The site is among those being considered for development into office space, by the Tunbridge Wells Regeneration Company.

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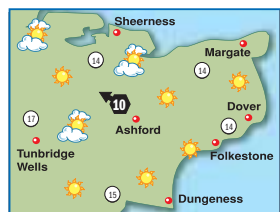


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Weather



Sun & Moon

Sunrise	6.13am	Sunset	7.42pm	Lighting up times
Moonrise	9.03am	Moonset	1.13am	7.42pm to 6.11am

High Tides

	today	tomorrow
ht (m)	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	02:31 6.1 14:57 6.0	03:14 5.9 15:48 5.8
Margate	03:53 4.4 16:02 4.2	04:33 4.3 16:47 4.1
St Mary's	08:39 4.9 20:57 4.9	09:22 4.6 21:47 4.6

Around Britain

	°C	°F		°C	°F		°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	13-55	Edinburgh	fair	17-63	Newcastle	fair	16-61
Belfast	sun	16-61	Glasgow	fair	16-61	Norwich	sun	14-57
B'ham	fair	18-64	Isle of Man	sun	13-55	Oxford	sun	18-64
B'mouth	sun	17-63	Leeds	fair	16-61	Southsea	sun	16-61
Bristol	sun	13-55	London	sun	19-66	Sh'mpton	sun	17-63
Cardiff	sun	18-64	Liverpool	sun	18-64	Southport	sun	17-63
Cork	cloudy	13-55	Manchester	fair	18-64	Swansea	sun	15-59

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'Turbulent times for NHS'

Calls for public to have more say on changes to healthcare

A LEADING health campaigner has urged the Government to listen to the concerns of the people as well as professionals during further consultation on the NHS shake-up, **writes Jenna Pudelek.**

Former chief executive of Hospice in the Weald John Ashelford, now a governor for the Kent Local Involvement Network (LINK), which works to improve healthcare in the county, warned "turbulent times" were ahead.

He welcomed the Health Secretary Andrew Lansley's decision to "pause" and allow further consultation on the sweeping changes planned. His announcement on Monday came amidst mounting criticism of the proposals from doctors, cross-party MPs and unions.

While he recognised the need for change in the NHS, Mr Ashelford said: "The concern I would have and of some of my colleagues, is that Mr Lansley was going at a tremendous pace and in the process the voice of the community and professionals was almost an hindrance."

"Even though the Government had previously talked about involving patients and the

community, at the same time the Health Secretary had his blinkers on.

"There is a danger this could go seriously wrong and leave a worse state of affairs. That the Health Secretary is going to take on-board comments and listen to people and pause the health bill is to be welcomed."

"For something that is going to be a phenomenal sort-out that hasn't been done since the NHS was created in 1948, you cannot do that in a hurry."

The Government's plans would give GPs control of about 60 per cent of the NHS budget and allow more private firms to provide healthcare.

Too much, too soon

Dr Robert Blundell, a GP who works in Hawkhurst and is the vice chair of the Kent Local Medical Committee, said: "I think they are asking too much, too soon and from too many people."

He also had concerns about the future under the new plans.

"The only way there are going to be real savings is to dramatically reduce activity in hospitals," he said.

"To be dramatic savings there are likely to be closures of hospital departments and/or redundancies of specialists."

Dr Blundell spoke about some of the suggested changes to the bill. He said that specialists should not be involved in commissioning other than being consulted about best practice.

He said: "I would have concerns about too many clinicians other than GPs being involved in these changes. Consultants are a resource for GPs if they want to know what best practice is."

"But I don't think consultants should be telling GPs how to do general practice."

Meanwhile, Mr Ashelford had concerns about one of the central plans – to give GPs more power and responsibility.

"We don't want our GPs to be bogged down in administration and commissioning of services," he said.

He added: "There has to be public accountability. There are turbulent times ahead. I'm glad there has been brakes put on this because it was going downhill fast."

"I hope people have the opportunity to raise concerns and for them to be addressed. I hope they let everybody have their input."

"I hope they listen, I want this to be a genuine reflection that we may have been going too fast and lost some people along the way, but we are going to bring them back on board."

Relief as majority given first choice schools

PARENTS will be breathing a sigh of relief after it was confirmed this week the vast majority of children got their first choice primary school.

The figures, released by Kent County Council (KCC), revealed that across the county just under 85 per cent got their first choice school, with 94 per cent getting one of their choices.

This comes despite the numbers applying rising for the second year running.

KCC said by the January closing date, some 16,249 applications were received for primary school places, up 1,329 on the previous year.

KCC cabinet member for education, learning and skills Cllr Sarah Hohler said: "The number of primary school applications has risen for the second year running."

"Although we anticipated this and have been making plans, it is not until all the



applications come in that we know the full picture and where the popular schools are.

"We have done a lot of work over the last few weeks to make sure every child was offered a place and it is pleasing the majority

were given a school that they chose.

"This has been achieved by working with schools across the county to temporarily increase numbers to provide 345 additional places."

"For those parents who have not been offered a school they had hoped for, we have included additional information on what to do next in the letter."

"Firstly, we are suggesting they visit the school they have been offered to speak to the teachers and get a feel for the school. They also have the option to go on a waiting list for a preferred school and lodge an appeal."

To help parents further, a specialist KCC team is on hand at 01622 696565 to help with queries for their schools.

There is also a choice adviser on 01622 694073 or 01622 694065, who will be able to offer independent advice on KCC schools.

Concerns over pressure on primaries

Continued from front page
the town this year.

Letters from KCC offering a primary school arrived on doormats last Friday. County-wide there was an increase of 1,329 applications.

In his letter to parents, Mr Sutton-Smith wrote: "Like us, you will be wondering whether the same thing will happen again in September 2012."

"The truth is we don't know, it might, or it might not. It's out of our hands."

"We have to consider it and do what we can to prepare for that eventuality but the local authority is reacting to an immediate problem rather than actively planning the permanent expansion of some schools."

"They are certainly not seeming to have any strategic plans or cash for new buildings, but we will be given a mobile this autumn."

Mr Sutton-Smith, who did not wish to comment further this week and redirected our interview request to KCC, said three other primary schools in the town had increased their admissions this year.

Cllr Hohler said schools in Sevenoaks had also experienced an increase in admissions.

Peter Read, a former headteacher and independent county-wide education advisor, warned about the pressure on primary school places last year.

"I'm very concerned Mr Sutton-Smith believes that KCC does not seem to have any strategic plans."

"In a document of two years ago, KCC called for a strategic plan to manage growth so where is this strategic plan?"

"Or, as has happened at Claremont, are they just reacting to events at very short notice and imposing additional places on schools that do not wish to receive them?"

"It is shocking that he says he only received two weeks' notice that this imposition was going to happen."

Balance

Cllr Hohler said: "KCC is responsible for making sure there are sufficient primary school places for all Kent children who require a place. We balance this duty against the equally essential aim of not having too many unfilled places."

"Unfilled places are very expensive and at this time of austerity, cost effectiveness is a priority for many council taxpayers."

"Our forecasts for the Tunbridge Wells district indicated that, although there would be pressure on reception places in the town this year, it would be manageable with the existing capacity. The forecasting methodology for districts is very accurate."

"The rise in reception applications can be linked to the economic downturn, with an increase of over eight percent of parents seeking state provision over independent schools."

"KCC had the time to expand several schools once first preference information was known."

"This gives us the opportunity to compare demand with capacity and make adjustments to fulfil KCC's statutory obligations to provide sufficient primary school places. Without this early warning system in place, fewer Kent children would be offered a school that they listed as a preference."

"As soon as the increase in Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells was confirmed, we immediately contacted several schools in these areas that had space for additional accommodation. They were asked whether they would be able to increase their intake this year."

"The decision rested with the school leadership and governing body. All schools contacted stated that they would be happy to accept more reception children this year."

"KCC confirmed that grant funding, installation and internal fit out costs will be borne by us, with no impact on school budgets. Following these reassurances, the schools agreed to accept extra reception children."



MOVING FORWARD: Cllr June Crowhurst tries out an excavator at the demolition

Time to say goodbye to old hospital

AS the opening date of the new 'super hospital' at Pembury edges ever closer, demolition work has finally got under way on the old site.

It marks the end of an era for the buildings, which are being levelled to make way for new facilities.

Over the coming months, contractors Laing O'Rourke will be transforming the old site to create a helipad for the new A&E department, car parks and a landscaped area of open heathland.

The first building flattened was Woodlands House on Monday, which until last autumn was used as staff accommodation and a library.

Cllr June Crowhurst, chairman of Pembury Parish Council, was invited along to mark the start of the demolition.

The first phase of the new Tunbridge Wells at Pembury Hospital opened to patients in January and the rest is set to be complete in September when services move from the Kent and Sussex and Maidstone.

Stripped

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust said the old hospital's buildings are being 'soft-stripped' of recyclable materials. And care is being taken to ensure the well-being of the bats and birds, which nested at the site before demolition work started. A purpose-built bat house is part of the scheme to preserve their habitat.

The new hospital was built under a £235million private finance initiative deal.

New hospital project director Graham Goddard said: "This work is in a designated area of special scientific interest and requires demolition to be carried out with great care. We are very mindful of our obligations to reduce the impact on the wildlife and fauna of this very special site."

"The contractors are making good progress and are currently some weeks ahead of schedule."

From the army to the catwalk, book tells it all

By **JAMES BENJAMIN**

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FORMER Miss England Katrina Hodge – better known by her nickname, Combat Barbie – has revealed how she stared down the barrel of a gun pointed at her by an Iraqi prisoner, before single-handedly disarming him.

The Tunbridge Wells soldier and beauty queen revealed the terrifying experience during her time on the frontline. This forms part of her autobiography, *Combat to Catwalk*, which was published on Monday.

It charts the remarkable story of how she grew up in the town before becoming a soldier, winning a commendation for her bravery, then being crowned Miss England and taking part in the prestigious Miss World competition.

Ms Hodge, a former pupil at St John's primary in Cunningham Road, also explained how she feared being captured and beheaded in the war-torn Middle Eastern country.

Writing in the book, she said: "In September 2005, we went to search someone's house and detained a heavily built Iraqi in his 40s or 50s for questioning."

"We got back into our tank, with me inside with the detainee and a second soldier, while the driver was at the front and two people were on top. The Iraqi stared at me intently and I stared back."

Agony

"Suddenly, the vehicle seemed to go from under us, turning over. We were thrown from end to end, hitting the metal sides and floor. When I came round it was pitch-black and my colleagues were yelling in agony."

"A chink of light came inside and I looked around for the Iraqi."

"What I saw terrified me. He was holding two weapons. One was my own rifle, which had fallen during the roll."

"They were loaded with 30 rounds of ammunition and he was pointing one at me. I was probably about to die."

"Then a survival instinct I never knew I had kicked in. I was not prepared to die. I had to do something."

"With every ounce of strength I possessed, I punched him square in the face, gasping at the massive cracking noise it made. The Iraqi and I were both shocked by the force of my blow. He dropped the guns. I leapt forward and grabbed them."



Ms Hodge, who got married last year, also revealed her biggest fear of life in Iraq.

"My first posting was to the Royal Anglian Regiment in Pirbright, Surrey. It was there that I learnt I would be going to Iraq in April 2005, just after my 18th birthday."

"The news came as a shock, but I wouldn't have felt I'd done my job if I hadn't served in Iraq or Afghanistan."

"For the first few months in Iraq I felt homesick. Despite wanting to prove myself, I didn't enjoy being in Basra."

"It wasn't just the heat – there was the constant dust and smell of rotting animal carcasses and open drains."

"My greatest fear wasn't combat – I had been trained for that – but being kidnapped and beheaded. Intelligence suggested rebel Iraqis were trying to capture female soldiers."

• *Combat To Catwalk*, by Katrina Hodge with Alexandra Heminsley, is published by John Blake. RRP £16.99.

Crime allegations to be investigated

A COUNCIL worker has been suspended while claims about criminal activities in his past are investigated.

Graham Fearon, a housing officer at Sevenoaks District Council, has convictions dating back to 1985 and was subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check when he joined the local authority six years ago.

But the council is now investigating after new allegations emerged about the nature of his convictions.

A spokesman said: "In the light of new allegations that are significantly different from those which appeared on Mr Fearon's CRB disclosure, we are investigating the matter further to establish the facts from rumour."

Register to vote

THE deadline to be on the electoral register to vote in the May 5 elections is this week.

To be included on the electoral roll you must be registered by April 14. It will entitle you to vote for both local councillors and in the alternative vote (AV) referendum taking place on the same day.

To ensure you are registered before Thursday's deadline, contact your local council or visit www.aboutmyvote.co.uk.

Goldfinches taken

AN appeal for information has been launched after 11 goldfinches were stolen from a property in East Malling.

The birds were taken from an aviary at the back of a house in Watlington Road between noon on March 27 and 8.30am the next day.

If you have any information about this incident, call police on 01732 379217 or Kent Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.



"My husband and I separated last year. I was at a complete loss to know what to do. Whitehead Monckton were very caring and were able to help me arrange everything without us going to court. They also sorted out the mortgage and made sure I had a new will."

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Three more arrests in farm killing

A 17-year-old boy from Tunbridge Wells has been arrested on suspicion of murder in relation to the killing of a businessman at his Sussex farm.

Police also arrested a 56-year-old man from Sandhurst and a 41-year-old man from Ashford on Tuesday in connection with the murder of Julian Gardner in Robertsbridge in 2010.

Sussex Police said all three were in custody and being questioned by the force's major crime branch.

Police believe Mr Gardner, 53, was killed after he disturbed intruders at Bush Barn Farm in the early hours of October 11.

A post-mortem examination found he had suffered multiple injuries. Various items were stolen from the farm, including a computer, drills and chainsaws.

Police have arrested 13 people as part of their investigation. One of them, a 31-year-old woman from Ashford, has been told she faces no further questions.

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Motorist tried to grab young girl

A TEENAGE girl has been left shaken after being grabbed by a man in Hawkhurst last Sunday.

The 13-year-old was walking along The Moor, past the Eight Bells pub at around 8.30pm when a car pulled up behind her. She was then grabbed by the driver, but struggled free and escaped.

The man is described as white, aged 40-50, fat, with a beard and a shaved head. He was wearing a checked blue shirt and dark jeans with holes in the knees. The car is described as dark in colour and medium-sized, with a large black and tan dog in the back, possibly a German Shepherd or similar breed.

PC Jon Saxby said: "Thankfully the girl was not hurt but she was very shaken up by the experience. This is an extremely unusual incident and I would urge anyone who thinks they may have seen anything, no matter how trivial, to contact police."

Anyone with information should call the police on 01732 379217 or Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Birds are nesting

AS the breeding season gets under way and millions of birds start nesting in roofs and gardens, the RPSB says it is getting an increasing number of calls from concerned householders who are hearing noises in their lofts and attics and worrying that birds are trapped.

RSPB experts are reassuring callers that in most cases, the birds will simply be building their nests in small spaces within roofs and wall cavities, and they are not trapped and unable to get out.

The main culprits are usually house sparrows and starlings, as they are traditionally cavity nesters.



BE CHARITABLE: Skill and fancy dress are optional for participants in this entertaining fundraising event

Are you ready to race?



THE Dragon Boat Festival is set to return to Bewl Water for its 14th year this summer and organisers are hoping to hit the £2million fundraising mark, **writes Jenna Pudelek.**

Over the years, 10,000 paddlers have taken to the decorative long boats and raised money for more than 200 charities at the scenic reservoir near Lamberhurst.

Funraisers, the group that organises the charity event, has launched its annual appeal for teams to take part in the festival on September 17 and 18.

A spokesman said: "As the most exciting fundraising event for anyone to raise funds on behalf of any charity, it is something not to be missed."

"Anyone can enter a team on either day for their chosen charity."

"It's a great day out for the whole family and not only will you be taking part in a unique local event, but you will also be helping to raise much-needed funds for those who need your help in these more difficult times."

To take part teams need 16 paddlers and a drummer. But more people can join teams as subs as there is the chance to race more than once in the day.

Fancy dress is encouraged but not essential. The organisers said that teamwork, co-ordination and rhythm all help, but joked

that many teams get by without any of them.

As well as the racing, there will be a full and varied line-up of events, including children's play areas, a bouncy castle, face-painting, a rowing challenge, arena displays, go-karts, laser quasar, martial arts, giant orbs, a climbing wall, 14 bands and a food village.

This year, the aim is to raise more than £200,000 for teams' chosen charities, which will hit the £2m fundraising mark.

Last year, the racers raised more than the target for their chosen charities. The festival has become the largest event of its type in Europe, with around 15,000 spectators watching 100 teams competing over the weekend in 10 dragon boats.

The ancient Chinese tradition of dragon boat racing goes back more than 2,000 years and is shrouded in myths, legends and superstitions.

Now dragon boat races and festivals are held throughout the world as well as during the traditional Duanwu Festival or Duen Ng in China.

For your chance to enter a team and raise money for your favourite charity or school email funraisersevents@hotmail.com, call 07092 222066 or see www.funraisers.org.uk.

The entry fee for each team is £300, which is about £17.50 per paddler.

Find more news and sport updated daily
www.yourtunbridgewells.co.uk



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Music a One in a Million way to help Japan crisis

A SINGER from Tonbridge has released a charity single designed to raise money for the Japan earthquake fund.

Kirsti Robinson, pictured, is a singer-songwriter who has put together One in a Million, a song co-written by Adam Ferguson and featuring eight female artists from the UK and Canada recruited via online social media such as Facebook.

All proceeds from the track will go to Global Giving's Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Relief Fund.

Ms Robinson said: "I had been watching the news over a couple of days and every day I woke up and the devastation had just got worse and worse. I couldn't bare to sit by and

do nothing when I knew there was a possibility I could raise some money with music."

"So I contacted a few fantastic vocalists to see who I could get involved and by the Tuesday I'd written and recorded the track with my producer Adam Ferguson and then we were on our way."

"I hope that by getting together a number of amazing vocalists and a good song, we can aim to make even a small dent in the huge amount of money that

it is going to take to rebuild some of the people's lives that have been affected."

• **One in a Million is available to buy from most online stores. It costs 99p on iTunes.**



Public inquiry decides paths may remain closed

CAMPAIGNERS have lost a long-running campaign for the right to ramble across land on the Bayham Abbey estate.

Walkers group the Ramblers, has been trying to get two paths in the large estate on the borders of west Kent and East Sussex recognised as public footpaths since the 1970s.

But their hopes have been dashed after an inspector acting on behalf of the Environment Secretary, Conservative Caroline Spelman, ruled against the campaign.

Robert Peel, area secretary for the Kent Ramblers, has been a long-time campaigner for the land running through the parishes of Pembury, Frant and Lamberhurst, to be enjoyed by the walking public.

"We're very disappointed," he said. "This is

beautiful countryside not very far from Tunbridge Wells and the paths had been used in the past quite regularly.

"This is the largest expanse of countryside in the area and people cannot walk across it.

"We would have connected the paths to create a very pleasant circular walk but now there are huge gaps in our circle.

"It is a great loss to the walking public."

Campaigners were hopeful after last year it was found there was enough evidence to suggest the footpaths existed, having been used by the public for many years, and therefore should be added to the 'definitive map', which is a legal record of all public footpaths.

But last Friday, April 1, following a public inquiry, the inspector for the Secretary of State

for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs ruled to the contrary.

Mr Peel said it was possible to appeal but on such narrowly defined grounds that he thought it unlikely it would go ahead.

The estate was owned by the Marquesses of Camden for many years, during which time the public had access to certain paths. But when it was sold in parcels in the 1970s and 1980s, some of the new landowners began preventing access, the Ramblers said.

The scenic paths around the ruins of the old Bayham Abbey, were closed off and 'keep out' signs appeared.

Campaigners began to gather evidence that the paths had been in public use.

Last year, the Secretary of State told Kent

County Council and East Sussex County Council to begin adding the paths to the definitive map, as the evidence showed that it was reasonable to allege that rights of way exist.

But some of the landowners objected and a public inquiry was held.

The result of the inquiry, which found that there was also evidence that the use of the paths had been interrupted by the locking of gates and other obstacles often enough to show that the landowner did not intend to dedicate the paths to the public, means they will remain closed.

Tom Franklin, the Ramblers chief executive, added: "We are obviously hugely disappointed and it is deeply saddening that such a scenic setting remains closed off to the public."

Land's End to John O'Groats on a scooter

By JENNA PUDELEK

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

AN INJURED ex-serviceman is one week into a remarkable fundraising effort – travelling from John O'Groats to Land's End on a mobility scooter.

Simon Angel, 46, who lives in Pembury, suffers from multiple sclerosis (MS).

He came up with the challenging idea during a spell at a respite home due to his problems with post-traumatic stress at the beginning of last year.

Speaking before he set off on the 874-mile challenge, Mr Angel told us: "My mobility is now severely impaired and I started attending a charity-driven respite home run by Combat Stress.

"I found that I'm not alone struggling with the afterlife from my exploits in the armed forces and it is here where I came up with idea of a Rally for Remembrance."

The rally launched last Friday, and is sponsored by mobility specialist TGA, which has provided a Breeze Scooter for the trek – top speed eight mph.

He is hoping to raise £10,000 for the Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes. Mr Angel said he also wanted to raise awareness about injured servicemen and woman from all conflicts.

Mr Angel, who was awarded a MBE in 2000 after his time in Northern Ireland, joined the Royal Engineers in 1984.

He served in Germany before the fall of the Berlin Wall, and travelled the world with the Army, including Cyprus, the Falklands, Belize, as well as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq during the first Gulf War in 1990.

It was an incident with an improvised explosive device (IED) while in Londonderry that Mr Angel said triggered his MS and post

traumatic stress disorder in 1994.

"The IED blew up my friend right in front of me," he said. "Doctors say it was this event that triggered my MS off, with the stress of seeing what I did that day.

"It was to be another five years before I was finally diagnosed with the condition. My illness started to get the better of me in my final years of service and I was eventually medically discharged after 21-and-a-half years of a 22-year career, of which I am still immensely proud."

Mr Angel said after he was discharged he found it hard to feel motivated and his condition has left him unable to walk. He added that organising the Rally for Remembrance has given him purpose and kept him busy.

Hidden

"You do not hear many stories about the servicemen who get injured because it is bad press," he said. "You hear about people dying, but people are coming back each week with serious injuries from Afghanistan.

"What people also do not seem to understand is that there are people like myself who were injured in Northern Ireland, Bosnia, the Falklands and during the first Gulf War, who need support.

"Afghanistan and Iraq are very current and rightly so. But the Royal British Legion helps people going further back and that is really important."

He added: "Bearing in mind my medical condition, the will be extremely tough.

"However, I am fully committed to helping raise as many funds as possible for injured servicemen and women whilst saying thank you to those who have sacrificed their lives to make the world a safer place.

"With an estimated journey time of 30-35 days, this challenge could not have been possible without the kind assistance of ex-military friends and TGA Mobility."

• See www.rallyforremembrance.co.uk.



ATM cash stolen

CROOKS used cutting equipment to pinch money from a cash machine in West Kingsdown on Wednesday morning.

The incident happened at around 2am at the Texaco service station on London Road.

Police say a quantity of cash was stolen. A vehicle, thought to have been involved in the incident, was found abandoned nearby.

Anyone who may have seen a light-coloured metallic 4x4 vehicle in the area, possibly travelling from West Kingsdown towards Farningham, should contact police.

FAMILY fun days and activities for young people have been planned throughout the Easter holidays.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Voluntary Action Within Kent and Kent County Council have jointly organised a programme of free events.

A brochure listing the activities is available in sports centres, TICs, the art gallery, Gateway or from www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk.

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Making a song and dance of crime

ELDERLY and vulnerable people in Tunbridge Wells were treated to four special performances of a musical this week – sending a message of how to not fall victim to crime.

Tricksters showed people how they can deal with rogue traders and unexpected callers coming to their homes and also

how to avoid becoming a victim of distraction burglary.

Arranged by Tunbridge Wells Community Safety Unit, the performances were held in Benenden, Broadmead, Southborough and Goudhurst and around 100 residents accepted the invite to attend the free event.

THE INTERVIEW



BY ED HILL

MIKE Gunn is a comic who has decided it is about time people came to see him in a theatre rather than stumble across him at some comedy club.

Along with his Canadian friend Sean Collins, he will be entertaining audiences in Tunbridge Wells.

He said: "We are two stand-ups who are basically very experienced and very good."

"We thought we would team up together and give people two headline acts for the price of one."

The duo will each do their act individually and then come together for the finale.

Gunn said: "At the end we have a kind of double act with the both of us basically tagging each other's material and trying to outdo each other in a relatively competitive way. Of course he is Canadian so I am always going to win."

The pair have also both recently featured on Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow on BBC1.

He continued: "We get on well because we are very similar. We are both dads who have been doing the circuit for a while, we both headline at clubs and to be honest we are a bit sick of doing that. We wanted to do a tour and do our own show."

Dead pan

Gunn has been a top act on the circuit for more than 10 years. In his early days he made a name for himself by adopting the comic persona of being an undertaker.

He said: "I have cheered up a bit more since then. I ran out of jokes about death and I'm not quite so deadpan as that anymore."

Sean Collins has been living in the UK for five years. He cut his comedy teeth back in Canada where he made several successful TV shows before coming to the UK to appear in critically acclaimed runs at the Edinburgh Festival.

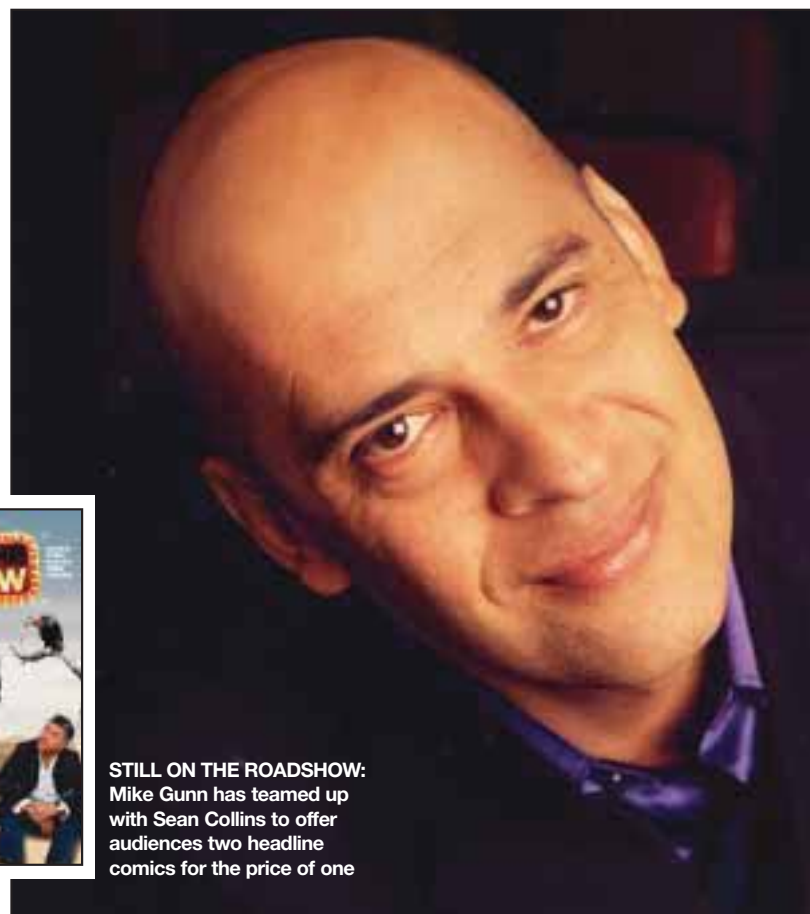
Gunn said: "Sean and I are very different characters. I am very pessimistic where as he is very optimistic. We balance each other out. He is more of a storyteller and I am more of a gag merchant."



STILL ON THE ROADSHOW: Mike Gunn has teamed up with Sean Collins to offer audiences two headline comics for the price of one

Double barrel comedy with Gunn and Collins

Duo leave the clubs behind to stand up for themselves



Gunn is down to earth about his career and writing comedy.

He said: "Life is behind what I write; just sitting at a computer isn't very productive. If I notice something I think could be funny I make a note of it on my phone."

"Then I work it into an actual gag or routine. It is a slow process. People think it must be exciting, but it's a job of work."

"I was in America not long ago in a Walmart waiting in the queue."

"A family of dwarfs were in front of me all buying Mini Magnums. You can't make that up and that sort of thing will inspire a routine."

Gunn says even after all this time there are no guarantees about whether a joke will work with a crowd.

He said: "You have to try it out in front of an audience. I can write something that I think is really funny and it just doesn't work. It's still trial and error."

And both comics are really enjoying being on the road together.

"It has been great so far. It's so nice that people are coming just to see us. It gives you that little bit more leeway to have fun," said Gunn. "We have been doing it for years and we are good. There are loads of brilliant comics out there in comedy clubs who people may never have heard of. I encourage people to go and see them."

"The people you see on TV are not necessarily the best. They may be the best looking or the youngest but they may not be the best."

• **The Mike Gunn and Sean Collins - Still on the Roadshow, will be at the Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, on Tuesday, April 19, at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15. To book call 01892 530613/532072 or visit www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk.**

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John Lewis at home

Pray for those in action in Libya

THE Bishop of Rochester has voiced his support for the military action against Colonel Gaddafi's Libyan regime.

While admitting Christians have difficulty supporting any kind of conflict, the Right Reverend James Langstaff indicated that coalition forces probably had to intervene for the greater good.

However, he did warn against British forces getting caught up in yet another lengthy war, following the huge loss of life in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Rt Rev Langstaff said: "There is a question as to what right we have to intervene when another person is perceived to be oppressive and violent towards his own people. It was the same with Hitler during World War Two.

"Christians have different views about using force, but I think in the case of Libya we

probably had to, on balance.

"These things are never entirely clear, and you often have to weigh up what to do.

"We don't know what carnage might have taken place if Col Gaddafi's forces had reached Benghazi. That's why we have to pray for the people whose job it is to make these difficult judgements."

The Rt Rev Langstaff added that it was important the coalition forces do not outstay their welcome in Libya, and risk being perceived as "western colonialists".

He said: "My anxiety is that once you get involved in this type of thing, it can be very difficult to get out of.

"I really hope those who make these decisions work out how not to get embroiled."



Bishop: Cuts too

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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MASSIVE Government spending cuts will hamper the public's ability to regain responsibility from the state, warns the Bishop of Rochester.

While acknowledging the need to reduce the deficit, the Right Rev James Langstaff – who also represents most of west Kent, along with Bexley, Bromley, Gravesham, Dartford – says the speed and depth of the cuts may not give people time to adjust.

The bishop's comments come as more than 250,000 people took part in an anti-cuts demonstration in London recently, resulting in 201 arrests as a minority of protestors broke windows and covered businesses in paint.

The state

"I think it's fairly clear that over the last generation we have – perhaps without noticing it – allowed the state to play a bigger and bigger part in people's lives, and that's partly our own fault," he said.

"When something goes wrong our response is 'what's the Government going to do about it?', and that has a price tag to it.

"So there needs to be more than just spending cuts; there needs to be a change in people's mentality so we learn again

ANGER: Feelings were running high at the recent protest over Government cuts that will affect public sector services

Picture: MARK RAMSAY



More informations : Collège Pierre Daunou - Section Internationale Britannique

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The boarding school is new and purpose built, it offers facilities to accommodate 40 children in the International Section. The building comprises bedrooms with on suite bathrooms... Three children share a room and dispose of a single bed with desk and chair. There are facilities for special needs, particularly for those physically challenged. The small number of pupils means that we can give them the individual attention they will need, particularly in the first weeks away from home. Two teacher assistants, one male and one female, are on hand day and night in the boarding school to help with homework and offer moral assistance and help to ensure their well-being.

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deep, too fast

People 'need time to adjust to being self-supporting'

to take more responsibility for ourselves.

"But there's a slight danger that the learning process might be undermined by the depth and rapidity of the cuts."

Councils currently have little option but to make huge savings over the next financial year due to the front-loading of cuts imposed by the Coalition.

Kent County Council, for example, must save £95 million this year followed by a lower figure of £65m in 2012-13.

Last month the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, told this newspaper Government spending cuts were putting vulnerable people at risk.

He added that he wished councils had the option to show more forward planning when it came to service reductions, and that he was worried some people would continue to be worse off, even after the economy has recovered.

The Rt Rev Langstaff, who is three

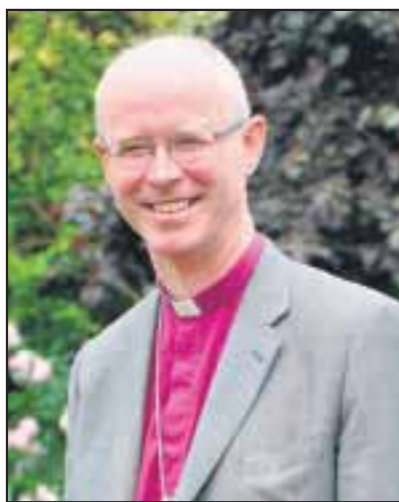
CHANGE NEEDED: Bishop of Rochester, the Rt Rev James Langstaff, urges caution

months into his new job, agreed with Dr Williams that homelessness could also rise as a result of the spending cuts.

He said: "There's an argument for that. Even in wealthier parts of Kent there will be partners on good jobs who may be made redundant at the same time, and then even they will start to wonder where the next meal is going to come from."

"Of course the cuts will also cause a great deal of anxiety in areas that are heavily dependent on employment in the public sector or on state support for different things, and there's a big question mark over how we respond to that."

"But the Church will play its part in meeting human need, as it has done for more than 2,000 years – long before anyone invented the Big Society."



Do stolen gems belong to you?

DETECTIVES in west Kent have released images of items of stolen jewellery in the hope of tracing their owners.

The collection is believed to have been taken during a burglary in the Snodland area and includes various brooches and necklaces.

Police said the appeal was part of a force-wide campaign – Stay Safe this Spring, which targets burglars and advises people how they can keep their homes and property safe as the lighter evenings and warmer weather begins.

Officers will be targeting people suspected of crimes such as burglary, theft and handling stolen goods. People have been urged to security mark property such as bicycles, lawnmowers, tools, mobile phones and mobility scooters, at a recent crime reduction event in Borough Green and Wrotham.



HUMAN ERROR: The devastation in Japan is a result of building in the wrong place, says the Bishop of Rochester

Natural disasters 'are a side-effect of the creation'

CHRISTIANS should not lose faith in God over tragedies such as the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan, says the Bishop of Rochester.

The 9.0-magnitude quake and the powerful tidal wave it triggered off the north-east coast on March 11 is now known to have killed more than 10,900 people, with more than 17,000 still missing.

But while admitting it was understandable for people to question the existence of God following such catastrophic events, the Right Reverend James Langstaff said mankind had to take responsibility for what had happened.

"Tragedies like the earthquake shake people's confidence," he added. "They ask how they can believe in a loving God when such terrible things are allowed to happen, when the reality is that they arise out of the fabric of the world we live in."

"Creation has these side consequences. While one is very sympathetic about the situation in Japan, one has to consider where we choose to place our cities, because we can't expect God to do everything."

"We have it in our power to sort these problems out ourselves. Tokyo is very close to a major fault line, so what are we doing to exercise our God-given responsibilities to avoid these kinds of disasters? "Earthquakes are unfortunately going to happen. That's how the world was made."

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Reward for return of statue

A BRONZE-effect statue of a stag that weighs around a quarter of a tonne has been stolen from the back garden of a house in Hildenborough.

Police have launched an appeal for information after the statue was taken from the property in Coldharbour Lane some time between 1pm and 3pm on March 25.

It comes after the theft of a doe deer statue from the same property, some time between February 23 and 27.

A reward is being offered for information leading to the conviction of those responsible.

Police said because it is so heavy, it would need more than one person to carry it. The chain attaching the deer to the ground was cut.

Anyone with information about this incident, or who may have seen people or vehicles acting suspiciously in the area should call police on 01732 379217 or Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



HEAVY: The bronze doe and stag, which have been stolen from a home in Hildenborough

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C4 boss must go after 'sick' jokes, claims charity

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A LEADING charity has called for a Channel 4 boss to resign after the media regulator upheld 500 complaints over "sick" jokes about Katie Price and her son Harvey.

The Royal London Society for Blind People, which runs Dorton House School in Seal near Sevenoaks, said the position of the channel's chief executive David Abraham was untenable in light of Ofcom's ruling.

The regulator found Channel 4 had breached broadcasting guidelines with the jokes made by comedian Frankie Boyle on the Tramadol Nights series.

Ofcom said the routine appeared to "target and mock the mental and physical disabilities" of the nine-year-old, who is blind and has autism.

The Royal London said the situation was made worse because Mr Abraham personally sanctioned the jokes before they were broadcast.

"We welcome this ruling from Ofcom," Tom Pey, the charity's chief executive said. "It is unprecedented for 500 people to separately complain."

"What angers us is that David Abraham personally sanctioned the jokes. It is absolutely clear that his position is untenable, he should resign or the Channel 4 board should fire him."



MOTHER: Katie Price

"He has been arrogant enough to defend the indefensible."

He added: "It's bad enough that Channel 4 broadcast a sick joke about a blind and autistic child, but now we learn that it was discussed, considered and officially approved in advance by Channel 4 bosses."

Boyle said that former glamour model Ms Price had married cage fighter Alex Reid because she needed someone strong enough to protect her from her son's sexual advances.

In response to the charity's calls, a Channel 4 spokesperson said: "Ofcom, our independent regulators, have investigated C4 in regards to our broadcast of Tramadol Nights and although they did find us in breach of the code, regarding comments about Katie Price, they have not sanctioned us on this matter."

The broadcaster said the joke was "simply absurdist satire" and not about Harvey's disability.

A spokesman for the Royal London said: "There is a shocking cavern between what the public expects and what Channel 4 is seeking to deliver."



OFFENSIVE: Frankie Boyle

Teenager impresses with his youth budget

A STUDENT from Tonbridge has impressed judges and come second in this year's Chance to be Chancellor competition.

James Thompson, 16, who goes to Tonbridge School, was narrowly beaten by London student Priyesh Patel, 15, in the economic awareness education initiative run by the Citizen Foundation, in partnership with Aviva.

He competed against 249 young people and impressed with his explanation of why and how public spending should be prioritised in the 'age of austerity'.

James, Priyesh and eight other runners-up, presented the first-ever youth budget to Sir Nicolas Macpherson, permanent secretary at the Treasury recently.

It brought together the results of the Chance to be Chancellor challenge, an online interactive tool which invited young people to give their opinions on public spending. It involved about 1,300 young people.

Faced with the need to tackle the budget deficit, the vast majority of young people (84

per cent) recognised the need to cut public spending, choosing to make cuts, on average, of five per cent (£35 billion) over the current spending review cycle.

Education and health suffered the least stringent cuts, with young people prioritising spending on education (69 per cent) and health (76 per cent).

However, other areas, most notably culture, media and sport, and housing and environment, suffered particularly harsh cuts, with 30 per cent of young people opting to cut spending in these areas by 40 per cent. Another area where young people chose to cut deeply was welfare, with 80 per cent of participants opting to cut spending by up to £10 billion (five per cent).

Andy Thornton, chief executive of the foundation, said: "These findings demonstrate that, when informed, young people can take difficult decisions about how to manage the economy."

"As voters of the future, it is incumbent on the Government to pay attention to the voice of young people."



CUTS: James Thompson

ORGANISERS of this summer's Hop Farm Festival have unveiled the latest string of stars to perform.

They include Blur lead guitarist Graham Coxon, Pretenders star Chrissie Hynde and ex-James frontman Tim Booth.

Other acts confirmed today for the fourth annual event in Paddock Wood include Manu Chao La Ventura, the Guillemots, Frankie & The

Heartstrings, Damien Dempsey, The Duke Spirit, Kitty Daisy & Lewis, Cloud Control, Goldheart Assembly, The Secret Sisters and Liz and the Ligers.

They join the big-name line-up which will see the likes of the Eagles, Bryan Ferry, Brandon Flowers and the Human League perform on the Friday, of the two-day event on July 1 and 2, and Morrissey, Lou Reed, Iggy and The Stooges and Patti Smith on the Saturday.

STAR TURN:
Blur's Graham
Coxon will
perform his
solo material

Previous headliners include Neil Young, Bob Dylan and Paul Weller.

The festival is spearheaded by Vince Power – best known for creating the Mean Fiddler empire.

His track record includes spells promoting both Reading and Glastonbury festivals.

The Hop Farm Festival trades on a no sponsorship, no branding ticket, boasting that everyone attending enjoys the same experience. There is no VIP area.

Festival boss Vince Power said: "I'm

very pleased to announce even more acts. We have so many great bands on the bill so far and it shows that this year is going to be fantastic."

The festival has four music stages and includes comedy and campsite stages.

Tickets are now on sale. Weekend tickets are priced at £130 and day tickets at £70. Camping is £30 for the weekend or £25 per day. Children under 12 go free.

Dance troupe joins shoppers to promote healthy lifestyles

BRITAIN'S Got Talent stars Taboo will dazzle crowds at the Royal Victoria Place shopping centre this weekend.

The dancers, who reached the semi-finals of last year's ITV1 talent contest, will be performing on Saturday, April 9.

They will be promoting the Change4Life Healthy Passport Club.

It rounds off a week of activities across west Kent to launch the club.

They will also be teaching the public and new members of the club some of their signature moves.

The Healthy Passport Club is described as a "fun, interactive way for families to improve their health". It forms part of the national Change4Life campaign aimed at "supporting and encouraging people to reach their goals for healthier, happier futures".



DANCE STARS: Taboo will be promoting the Healthy Passport Club

Membership allows people to track their efforts through a personalised plan of activities.

Taboo said: "We are happy to be part of the Healthy Passport Club, helping people have fun, get dancing and be fit."

Royal Victoria Place shops are supporting the event on Saturday and donating prizes for new club members to win in a free prize draw.

Marks and Spencer has donated a £20 voucher and will also be handing out healthy snacks on the day.

Mobile phone shop, the 3 store, has donated a ZTE Racer Smartphone worth £59.99.

The group will perform in the food court terrace, on level one, outside Marks and Spencer, four times during the day – at 11am, 12.20pm, 1.40pm and 3pm.

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Bank move will save council over £100,000

SWAPPING banks is set to save a local authority £100,000 over the next five years.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council said that as of April 1, it would be banking with Lloyds TSB instead of HSBC.

Council finance bosses achieved the savings by re-tendering for banking services.

Residents who make payments to the council by standing order, who go into their bank to pay or those who make an international payment will need to change the payee details to: Account name: Tunbridge Wells Borough Council; Sort code: 30-00-02; Account number: 01396914.

Banks may also ask for the following details in addition to the details above: BIC – LOYDGB2LCTY; and IBAN – GB02LOYD30000201396914.

Changeover

For those who are not able to change their standing order immediately, the existing HSBC account will remain open for at least three months during the changeover period.

Meanwhile, residents who make payments to the council by direct debit will find these are automatically moved to the new account.

People who use a PayPoint outlet, the council's secure automated telephone service, cheque or cash, pay through the Gateway or the kiosk will also not notice any change to the service.

The council said those who pay by standing order, pay at a bank or use electronic payments from their bank account might want to consider switching to direct debit. People can find out more about how to do this by contacting the council's customer services team on 01892 526121.

Information about the changes is also available at www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk.

I feel I'm in a black hole, my experience is worthless



By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE crushing disappointment and frustration felt by unemployed 50-somethings has been revealed by a former legal professional from Paddock Wood.

Since he was made redundant in April 2010, Andrew Macreavy has filled in more

than 600 applications and achieved eight interviews, but he still cannot find a way back on to the job ladder.

The situation is getting increasingly desperate for the 57-year-old, as his mortgage insurance runs out in May and if he does not get back into work he could face the prospect of repossession.

Mr Macreavy and three other professionals featured in this week's Panorama programme on BBC1, which exposed the toll long-term unemployment is taking on the country's 50-somethings.

Job hunting has become a full-time vocation for Mr Macreavy and the constant rejection by youth-obsessed

employers is making him angry.

"Something needs to be done for people like me who are experiencing this black hole of unemployment," he said.

He told how he met with the same reasons for rejection.

"They have said I'm over-qualified, meaning too expensive, said that the candidate we chose we felt might be a better team fit, which means they thought I'm too old," he said.

"It is not that I'm being inflexible or unwilling to negotiate on wages, it is just the reality of the situation is that age discrimination does come into it.

"Whatever reason, and we know it is illegal to take age into account, but I know it does affect the views of the various parties involved.

"The other thing is, because I get a small pension from NatWest and my wife works, I'm not entitled to any jobseekers' allowance.



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"But having put in hundreds of thousands of pounds in National Insurance contributions, it does gall a bit when you ask for a little bit of help, that you cannot get anything back, especially when you see, not everyone, but a large percentage of people abusing the system."

Mr Macreavy was made redundant for this first time in 1999 after 27 years in banking. He did some independent financial consultancy before joining Cabot Financial in West Malling.

He headed up the litigation team at the debt collectors until the company decided to centralise his department in Rugby. After giving relocation a lot of thought he decided against it and took redundancy in 2009.

He was fortunate to get a job at a firm of solicitors in Sittingbourne, working for the senior partner on a project funded by a large hedge fund manager. However the hedge funder pulled the plug after six months, and the firm folded.

Coverage

"In this age group, unemployment levels are high. The only age groups where there is higher is among young people," Mr Macreavy said. "They get so much coverage and money thrown at them."

"I think they [the Government] need to address the situation, and look at it with a view to putting more resources into my age group, certainly. One of the ministers was interviewed and he said this age group falls into a black hole and that not enough is being done about it."

Mr Macreavy said he was not finding that employers valued the experience his age group would bring to a role.

"I'm not sure why they don't, because the benefits that my age group can bring to companies is phenomenal," he said. "You reach a certain age and companies believe you are cannot pick up new information."

"It is bizarre. It seems when you get near 60 you are on the scrap heap. The over 50s have a lot to offer – a lot more than people fresh out of uni with very few life skills."

As Monday's programme on BBC1 showed, the same problems are being felt by others in the same age bracket across the country.

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A LONDON Marathon runner from Tunbridge Wells is taking on the challenge in aid of a charity that runs a stem cell register.

Vicky Vyner, 39, said she chose to raise money for Anthony Nolan, which works to save the lives of people with blood cancer who need transplants, after hearing about their work when a friend of hers was

diagnosed with leukaemia.

She said: "I was shocked when I found out that David had leukaemia, but luckily Anthony Nolan was able to find a stem cell donor for him and he is now, thankfully, in remission."

"The training has been really tough, especially as I've had a knee injury, but the team at Anthony Nolan have been a huge support,

and knowing that all the money I raise will be going to such an amazing and worthwhile cause has kept me going."

If you would like to sponsor Ms Vyner, visit www.justgiving.com/vicky-vyner.

For more information on Anthony Nolan call 0303 303 0303 or email events@anthohnolan.org.



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A Lemon Festival display

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The Corinth Canal

Departs: May 5, June 24, Sept 12 & Oct 2, 2011**CRUISE PORTS OF CALL:**

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- Sicily - Messina
- Disembark Marseilles

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- Champagne Check-in at St Pancras
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Departs: October 7, 2011**PORTS OF CALL:**

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PRICE INCLUDES:

- FREE drinks from 3.30pm to 11pm Friday, 12noon to 11pm Sat & Sun
- Dinners & Breakfasts
- Entertainment includes movie screening of Grease and Bee Gees

Tribute act

- En-suite bedroom - upgrades available
- Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna
- Return Car Ferry

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ABTA Y0291

Public still kept waiting for consultation results

A DATE is yet to be set for the publication of the long-awaited report on the future of the civic complex consultation.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council's interim head of policy and partnership Robert Hardy said the report was expected to be completed by the end of the month.

However, the council said it did not know when the results of the consultation, which was run by M&N Communications, would be made public. The council put this down to the high levels of public involvement.

Mr Hardy said that more than 6,000 questionnaires were received as well as several thousand other responses through emails, letters and interviews.

A spokeswoman for M&N said their report

was based only on responses they had during the three-month consultation period, which was extended to the end of February.

The consultation was launched after concerns were raised by members of the public and cross-party councillors about council plans to redevelop the Grade II-listed complex, which includes the Town Hall and Assembly Hall Theatre.

A final report is set to be posted on the Tunbridge Wells Regeneration Company, a joint venture between the council and developers John Laing, and council websites.

It had been expected this month, but a public publication date will not be known until the council considers the findings of the M&N report.

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The best-laid plans...

You were quite right to highlight the concerns posed by the new planning regulations the Government seems determined to bring in.

Once again, it appears to put the concerns of big business and its unrelenting progress above that of those who choose to live in places unspoiled by major developments.

It is so typical of the Conservative Party that while, on one hand, it speaks of a Big Society where we all pull together for the common good, and powers are devolved, it doesn't apply to some of the things which impact on people's lives the most. Developing some of the countryside around west Kent could start to change the very nature of the place we all call home.

Yet all those up in arms about the proposals will continue to support the political party determined to push it all through.

H Jupp, Tonbridge

On the road to ruin

While I appreciate widening the A21 would make a big difference to a lot of motorists' daily commute, in this era of austerity, surely we could put that sort of money towards something more worthwhile.

I'm not opposed to road building, but do think it is a bit odd that we should continue to push for this hugely expensive scheme when there are cuts to major services.

Mrs T Appleby, Pembury

Make your voice heard

WE WELCOME your comments and letters for publication.

Please send correspondence to: The Editor, One Media/Archant KOS Media, Kenwood House, 1 Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2EL

Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances.

Please also include a daytime

telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

Missed last week's paper and want to know what sparked the debate?

Access back issues online with our award-winning e-editions. Simply visit www.kentnews.co.uk and click on the paper at the top of the screen.

You can access all KOS Media's other titles this way too.

Too much information

Having filled out my Census, I could not help wonder just why exactly it was necessary to know the name and address of my employer.

Given that we are told the information is confidential, we have to provide a remarkable level of personal details which I feel is asking too much of us. Not to mention the fact that I wonder just when all this information will be published online so people can find out far too much about us all. And if we would rather not, then we are threatened with a fine of up to £1,000. That seems neither fair nor right.

Name and address supplied

And too few answers

Can I suggest your newspaper looks to answer the question most of us are asking: what is happening with the consultation process into the plans for Tunbridge Wells town centre?

After lots of positive noises and promises of transparency and regular feedback, it all seems to have ended in a wall of silence.

Surely they have had more than enough time to sift through the results of the various meetings and publish the results as promised?

George Smith, Tunbridge Wells

It's hardly health food

I would like to echo Mrs Andrews' comments in your letters page last week, with regard the quality of hospital food.

My elderly mother was at the Kent & Sussex and endured some truly mediocre food.

Yes, we should not expect fine dining, but given the purpose of a hospital is to nurse people back to health, surely ensuring they are fuelled by decent food during that period is essential? A good diet aids well-being and recovery. I will keep my fingers firmly crossed that Pembury Hospital will rise to the challenge.

Lesley Knight, High Brooms

Roll on May the 5th

While not knowing quite how many people took part, I thought the results on your recent online poll were fascinating. Of course, it will come as no surprise whatsoever to see the Tories taking over half the vote.

Even though they are driving ahead with most of the most unpopular policies, it is their bedfellows, the Lib Dems who appear to be paying the price.

But what fascinated me was just how badly

the Lib Dems had fared.

Not only were they a long way off Labour but found themselves trailing the Greens.

Surely this is a new low for Clegg and co?

Yet despite that, the recent Pembury by-election suggests this will not be seen when we take to the polls on May 5.

That the Lib Dems defeated the Tory suggests there may yet be life in the old dog yet.

All of which makes May 5 become a date I am rather looking forward to.

Peter Grant, Goudhurst

VOTE NOW...

EACH week we'll be giving you the chance to make your voice heard on a major issue.

This week we want to hear your views on the effect of bad behaviour by football stars, after Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney was seen swearing into a TV camera after scoring a hat-trick.

So the question is simply this: Do you believe role models such as Wayne Rooney set a bad example to our youth?

There are a range of options to choose from, so vote now – see the poll on the home page of www.yourtunbridgewells.co.uk, www.yourtonbridge.co.uk or www.yoursevenoaks.co.uk.

Full results will be printed next week.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Should we keep pushing ahead with building more nuclear power stations in the UK?

- Yes – it is the future for our energy needs – 50 per cent
- Yes – any concerns I had over safety have disappeared after not even an earthquake and tsunami sparked a meltdown in Japan – 9 per cent
- No – the amount we have is fine – 5 per cent
- No – and we should phase out those we have – 26 per cent
- Undecided – 9 per cent



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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

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For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

ARNOLD

Luan and Jason would like to announce the safe arrival of Cody Padraig David Arnold on the 24th March 2011. A little brother for Emily Jane Waldron, arrived just in time for Nan's birthday.

CLAYTON

Mason Connah, born on 30th March 2011, weighing 7lb 14oz. Son to Lewis Clayton and Kelly Lowe in Flockstone.

GAJJAR-TAYLOR

Meera and Lee celebrate the birth of their son Akaash Lee Gajjar-Taylor on the 30th March 2011.

GRIFFIN

Sarah and Adrian Griffin of Hythe are delighted to announce the birth of Seren Ariane and Madoce

James on 14th March 2011. A baby brother and sister for Bryony.

HILTON

Maicie born on 18th March 2011, at 11:19am, weighing 8lb 8oz. Daughter to Tony and Hayley in Margate. Mummy and Daddy's special little angel.

LUCAS

Joel and Victoria of Canterbury are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Isla Victoria, on 21st March 2011.

MILLER

Scott and Lesley Miller of Ramsgate celebrate the birth of their adorable daughter, Grace Scarlett Miller, born 23rd March 2011.

O'NEILL

Little girls are so much fun we thought we'd

have another one. Grace Peggy arrived on Monday, 7th March, 2011, at Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother Hospital, on 7th March 2011, 7lb 14oz, 53cm, proud parents Stephen and Jane, big sisters Alice and Olivia. She's beautiful.

DEATHS

AXFORD

Violet Hilda May Axford passed away peacefully on 26th March, 2011, aged 88. Much loved mother of Jane and Jill and grandma to Emma, Chris, Beth, Nicola, Kirsten, and Kevin. Reunited with her beloved husband, William. Funeral service at Vinters Park Crematorium on Friday 15th April at 1:15pm

FARLEY

Michael Farley died peacefully on 25th March 2011. Any donations would be gratefully received by Maidstone Hospital (Whatman Ward) in his memory.

RATCLIFFE

Mona Zoe Ratcliffe passed away peacefully on 16th March 2011. A loving wife now together with her devoted husband Richard, who died ten days previously. They had 66 wonderfully exciting years of marriage together. A much loved mother, mother-in-law and grandmother who will be deeply missed.

VEITCH

Brian Veitch of Ramsgate passed away on 26th March, 2011. Enquiries to H R Palmer Ramsgate 01843 592720.

Southend and surrounding areas and protect London and much of the tidal reaches. Indeed power generation in this manner is proven and the technology in use in France. Most if not all rivers could and should generate electricity.

Given that oil and coal will disappear as a means of heating our homes, then the need for electricity will increase.

Both the above arguments have much to favour them. But the big issue is that both are just too hot for politicians to deal with. No politician would ever suggest removing mankind's right to breed and likewise no politician would ever suggest recycling is a waste of time when real investment is needed in proper renewable sources.

We, the population of the world have to make the right decisions ourselves and if in our own small way we can make a difference then so much the better. Otherwise all I can see is a ravaged, polluted planet, its natural resources stripped, overburdened by sick, undernourished people standing on each others heads in a desperate struggle to survive. Do we want this for our children?

Dave Tutt, Chatham

Detecting cancer

I would like to thank you for highlighting the tragic passing from cancer of Jordan Terry, from Erith. Our thoughts are with his family.

Sadly, we had a similar experience last year. My father died of bowel cancer in May. He fell ill in August, 2009, and was diagnosed with anaemia which continued for months.

He repeatedly visited his GP as his symptoms worsened towards the end of 2009. My father wasn't the type to complain of pain unnecessarily, having survived anthrax, heart attacks, and a heart bypass. He pushed for a hospital appointment, as he wanted to see a consultant. The original appointment was April, 2010, but he managed to bring it forward to March.

The surgeon took one look at my father and told him he was very ill and needed immediate surgery to remove a tumour. The surgeon gave up his day off on the Saturday to perform the surgery. My father survived the operation and seemed to make a slow recovery, but a few days after he returned home, he became seriously ill and had to return to hospital.

Before he was readmitted a specialist nurse visited him at home. My mum thought it was a routine visit to monitor his condition, but she told my father his illness was untreatable. Mum called me as she thought she had misunderstood, so I was told over the telephone that my father could not be treated. We were in total disbelief – the cancer had progressed so fast.

Within a matter of days after my father returned to hospital, we were told there was nothing they could do for him.

The registrar informed us the tumour was so large it had burst, so the cancer had travelled throughout my father's body.

This obviously had not happened overnight. The nurse said anaemia was often a sign of cancer and should have been investigated much sooner.

We have often felt that my father's cancer was not detected early enough and soon after he passed away considered taking action, but you try to be positive and deal with your grief as best you can. But nearly 10 months later, the nagging feelings we tried to push to the back of our minds are now occupying our thoughts once again.

Your article helped us find the mental strength to take action for the memory of my father, who was loved by everyone, and for all the other families that have been affected by similar tragedies.

The UK has the lowest detection rate for cancer in Europe, a shocking statistic. We would like to start a campaign to raise awareness and early detection of cancer, as it seems in some cases doctors are failing us.

I was treated successfully for melanoma, as I was aware of the symptoms and my GP treated the case as urgent. It really seems like a lottery when it comes to detecting cancer. The frustration, emotional devastation and grief is worse when you realise that your loved one died of a cancer that could have

been successfully treated if it had been diagnosed earlier. There is no guarantee that everyone can be cured, but every patient who visits their GP with serious concerns about their health deserves to be given the best treatment and advice. We understand there are constraints on budgets, but it is obvious some GPs need more training in cancer detection. We put our trust in them and their expertise, but sadly it seems some of them do not have sufficient knowledge about the symptoms of various cancers.

Nobody is perfect, but if they are unsure, they should refer the patient to a consultant as a matter of urgency for an expert opinion. Let's hope that something positive can come from such tragedies.

Michele Weedon, Maidstone

Rooney's foul play

Wayne Rooney? It's an old but true saying 'You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear', but in this case it's a bit of an insult to the sow's ear.

RE Tucker, Sheerness

Feel the benefit

At a time of economic cuts and welfare reform, millions are facing considerable financial pressures.

With this in mind, it seems startling that two-thirds of those living on low incomes in the UK and who may be entitled to in-work benefits, are not claiming them, according to a Turn2us survey.

Many of those struggling to make ends meet could claim, but don't. Often they don't realise what they are entitled to. This is especially true of the older generation.

In fact, the Turn2us research shows that nearly nine in 10 of low earners are totally unaware of the existence of in-work benefits.

This despite the fact that two-thirds of those surveyed nationally recently experienced a fundamental change to their working conditions, be it a decrease in working hours, or a change in salary.

In these uncertain times, it's more important than ever to ensure everyone is aware of their potential entitlement to welfare benefits and tax credits. I urge individuals to access the benefits checker at www.turn2us.org.uk, and check what they might be entitled to, how much and where to claim.

Benefits Awareness Month is running throughout April. Spread the message and let's get individuals claiming what they may be entitled to.

Edwina Currie, Turn2us

A deadly gamble

News of horses dying on British racecourses rarely gets published, yet a new analysis by Animal Aid shows that at least 162 horses suffered this fate over the past 12 months.

Cheltenham is the most lethal course in the country, accounting for 13 of the total number of victims.

Aintree, home of the Grand National, also proved treacherous, with four horses dying on a single day at the 2010 three-day meeting. While these two courses proved especially lethal, no fewer than 48 of Britain's 60 racing venues saw at least one thoroughbred fatality, while nine of them witnessed two or more deaths in a single day. The majority died from broken necks, backs or legs; or from pelvic fractures, tendon injuries, haemorrhages, or heart attacks.

The figures come from Race Horse Deathwatch, an online database established by Animal Aid, because the racing industry refuses to publish meaningful information about racecourse fatalities. There can be only two explanations for the industry's silence.

Either it does not care about the horses it kills, or it is fearful of the truth getting out.

Visit www.horsedeathwatch.com or contact Animal Aid for a free information pack.

Dene Stansall, Animal Aid, Tonbridge

A Duff argument

Oh dear, I'm afraid Ray Duff has shot himself in the foot again (Letters, March 20). He sneers at the fact that the world once had a worldwide flood, thousands of years before he and his friends had invented 'man-made global warming'.

Geologists have already proved there was once a worldwide flood, whether Noah was involved or not. The remains of a craft the size of Noah's Ark has been located on a mountain range in eastern Turkey, (also mentioned in the Koran), which rather proves the Biblical account.

Further proof of a global flood are the woolly mammoths found frozen in the ice in Siberia. They were so rapidly frozen some still had grass in their mouths and scientists believe it is possible to capture cells and DNA to recreate them. They were drowned in the flood, then frozen as the Earth rapidly cooled.

All the evidence suggests there was once a mantle of water vapour around the Earth that acted exactly like a greenhouse, ensuring a warm climate all over the world. Sound rather familiar, Mr Duff? Maybe that accounts for the ancient Buache map showing Antarctica as it would have looked, before it was covered in ice.

So much of what was written in the Bible has been proved to be true by scientists, geologists, biologists and various other experts in their fields. If only the same could be true of Ray Duff's man-made global warming.

Phil Granger, West Malling

Growing problem

To agree with Phil Granger twice in a month is surely going too far. Perhaps he's becoming as cynical – or realistic – as me.

The fact is, he's right. Although climate change occurs naturally, the human contribution of carbon emissions is a moot point, although not to be encouraged. The human depletion of natural resources – especially oil, gas and coal – will continue to increase if the population continues to rise. This is not a good thing. The concept of sustainability is ignored.

I despair when I hear that farmers in Britain are expected to increase food production by 50 per cent over the next few decades. Think of the implications of that when more and more land is turned over to building.

Kent is a good example – the Garden of England is becoming the Patio of England.

Mr Granger mentions India and China. Both countries have realised the dangers of over-population but only China – hardly a democratic country – has the power to impose a 'one child per family' policy and compulsory abortions. Unacceptable to us, maybe, but they are addressing the problem, albeit in a draconian way.

There are plenty of reliable methods of birth control but no social or financial incentives. If the stabilisation, and gradual reduction, of the population is desirable, then it should be a national policy, regardless of political parties, environmental or religious groups. Over-population has become the elephant in the room. Unfortunately, the economy is now the global religion, and growth its principal mantra. A fools' paradise indeed.

Dave Stewart, Deal

They are so right

I find I am in agreement with both your correspondents Dave Stewart and Phil Granger. Unfortunately we have little available action to do much in either Dave or Phil's arguments.

I wholeheartedly agree with Phil on over-population. But how do we address this? No politician will address the issue of the continuing growth of our numbers. Charities continue to want to protect the lives of millions of children in Third World countries while our own population is growing due to those from Asian and former Eastern Bloc countries who, seemingly have no idea what birth control is. At the same time, British people seem to be shrinking in numbers. Our welfare state seems only to support people who burden the world with children. This is madness. The tax system should support no more than two children, beyond which you're on your own and you should be penalised for more. Don't forget fathers with multiple children from different partners.

Instant treatment at a vasectomy clinic should be mandatory – perhaps this is the answer across the world. It is, after all, the men who are at fault here.

I agree with Dave that a tidal barrage across the Thames and Medway carrying a new river crossing while generating electricity would not only be a sensible installation it would also reduce the load on Dartford. It would provide local jobs in Grain, Sittingbourne, Medway,

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CLOSE-UP: Students at EMR during the Crop Science Investigation event

BUDDING young scientists were given a taste of laboratory life at East Malling Research.

The CSI: Crop Science Investigation event was part of the institute's commitment to National Science and Engineering Week, and was attended by youngsters from Invicta Grammar in Maidstone, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar in Faversham, and Tunbridge Wells Grammar for Boys.

The A-level students were shown how trees can be DNA fingerprinted, how water moves within plants, and how to detect the proteins scientists use to determine the movement of insects and develop crop protection systems.

Head of science Dr Chris Atkinson said: "It was great to welcome such enthusiastic students. With the issues of food production and adapting to climate change becoming increasingly important, the field of horticultural research which underpins how the world's population will ultimately feed itself will become an even more exciting

career opportunity."

In an effort to demonstrate that not all science takes place in laboratories, the EMR team took the students out onto its 550-acre site near Maidstone, renowned for its advances in horticultural research.

The youngsters were given the chance to collect insects from trees to compare the varieties and numbers of bugs present in the different species of tree.

Dr Atkinson said: "The day gave the pupils a real hands-on experience, especially the time spent in the orchards, and I hope showed how we start to develop integrated pest control strategies from field research through into actual laboratory work."

EMR is a subsidiary of the East Malling Trust and an independent provider of research, development and consultancy serving the food chain and other sectors of the land-based industry. Customers include the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), commercial companies and the European Union.

Academy's lasting legacy

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

CONSTRUCTION experts have praised the success of a two-year training programme that came to a close last month.

Kent's National Skills Academy for Construction was formed in 2009 as part of a Labour government initiative to drive up the standard of industry training.

It was launched by the Kent Local Education Partnership 1 – a collaboration between Kent County Council, Partnerships for Schools, the Kier Group, and Northgate Managed Services – to deliver new school facilities in Gravesham and Thanet.

Other contractors involved were Willmott Dixon, Canterbury-based Provian

Construction, and Sittingbourne-based Denne Construction. In the past two years the programme secured 72 apprenticeships, found 25 young apprentice placements, recruited 26 day-release professionals, offered 102 work placements for local 14 to 19-year-olds, and provided 22 graduate summer work placements.

A skills co-ordinator joint-funded by KCC and CITB-Construction Skills was also employed to match school-leavers, the long-term unemployed and others with opportunities in the construction industry.

Gillian Cain, regional delivery manager for CITB, said: "In the two years since the skills academy has been running, it has made a noticeable difference to the local economy and significantly increased the employment opportunities of the local workforce."

"Kent's skills academy can really claim to have left a lasting legacy for the community

in which it was based." One of the roles of the academy was to ensure the partnership's main contractors met commitments to provide apprenticeships and work-related training opportunities.

Across the two years it also hosted 26 curriculum support events and 60 school resource days.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "We set some very demanding targets to make sure the investment in new school facilities benefited both the schools and local communities."

"This shows how KCC and industry can work together to improve employment opportunities and support the construction sector."

"I have championed work-placed learning alongside more traditional subjects so young people are as prepared as they can be for employment, or be prepared as they need to be for further education or training."

Kier's Tony Franklin said: "A key objective of the partnership was to ensure the communities in which the schools were built benefited. We are proud of our achievements in delivering an extensive range of employment and training opportunities, as well as employing 70 per cent of the trade workforce locally."

Visit www.cskills.org for more information.

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SILVER SURFER: The adult learning sessions in Medway are aimed at the over-55s

Free internet training

WOULD-be silver surfers have been invited to enrol on a free training course delivered by Medway Adult and Community Learning Service.

Sessions will be held in May and June to help the over-55s who have never used a computer before. Run as part of the BBC First Click initiative, the course will teach participants how to navigate around a computer screen, search the internet and find out about online security.

"This is a great opportunity for anyone aged 55 or over to explore the world of information technology and discover that it's really easy to get started," said Carol Downey of the learning service.

"After people have tried the taster course we can then help them to develop the skills they've learned."

The first course will be at the service's

Gillingham centre in Green Street, from 10am-3pm on Tuesday, May 17.

The second will be at the Rochester centre in Eastgate, on Thursday, June 16.

Spaces on the first sessions in January filled up quickly and proved popular among those who took part.

Patricia Chivers, from Luton, in Chatham, said: "I was a bit nervous at the beginning but everything was very easy to understand and it's opened up a new world for me. I have a friend in Canada and thanks to this course I can email her regularly rather than having to wait for letters to arrive."

Spaces on the May and June sessions will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. A £5 reservation fee is payable but this will be refunded on the day. Call 01634 338400 for more details.

Apprentice boosts team

KENT Adult Education has added to its team of apprentices to help other learners enhance their own career opportunities.

Erin Rockell-Bennett is taking her apprenticeship in business and administration, and is based with the Key Training Services team in Tunbridge Wells.

She has been tasked with enrolling students onto courses and helping them with their inquiries, as well as assisting tutors and programme staff with timetabling and other administrative duties.

Erin said: "I didn't realise how big an organisation Adult Education was. The number and variety of courses they offer is amazing."

"In future I am hoping that having completed this apprenticeship I will have gained enough experience in customer services that I will be able to find a permanent position using my new skills."

To find out more about how apprentices can help your business, call 0800 731 4297 or visit www.keytrainingservices.org.uk.

Taking her art to the Max

A ROCHESTER filmmaker picked up an award at last month's National Student Film Festival.

University for the Creative Arts student Max Kimber, who is in the final year of her fine art degree at UCA Canterbury, won in the Best Experimental Film category for Cusp.

The part-time learner has picked up several accolades for the film, which she says

"examines the tenuous nature of life through a young fledgling".

She added: "It feels amazing to win another award. I am most certainly not taking them for granted."

"The success of my film hasn't made me want to move away from fine art. I view my filmmaking as an extension of my fine art practice rather than a destination, although I do have another film I want to make."



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Email: office@sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk
Web: www.sittingbourne.kent.sch.uk

Deputy Facilities Manager/ Receptionist

12 Months contract to commence June 2011 or earlier

7.5 hours per week initially, increasing to 23.5 hours per week 1st July 2011
Salary: £7.27 per hour

We are looking to appoint a Deputy Facilities Manager/Receptionist on a twelve month fixed term contract to commence as soon as possible.

Duties to include meeting and greeting visitors; handling incoming calls, conference servicing and general reception duties.

The successful applicant will be versatile, friendly, confident and able to handle telephone and ICT systems.

Hours initially to be one day a week until the end of June 2011 and increasing to four afternoons and all day Friday from 1st July 2011.

For further information and an application pack please contact Leza Riley on 01843 598600 or visit our website www.marloweinnovationcentre.co.uk

Closing date: Thursday 21st April 2011
Interviews to be held week commencing 25th April 2011

The Marlowe Innovation Centre is situated on The Marlowe Academy site and shares The Academy's commitment to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and therefore the successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.



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Catering, Hospitality

EXPERIENCED CHEF/COOK

Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
New Inn
Quoting Job Ref: KOS

Head Chef & Assistant Chef

Whitstable
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Plough (The)
theplough.s.walecliffe@live.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

ASSESSMENT & PERFORMANCE DATA ANALYST

Northfleet
Salary £9,574 to £10,531 p.a.
To apply/more information:
Northfleet School for Girls
info@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Office & IT Manager

Ashford
Salary £23,000- £25,000
Office & IT Manager
We are seeking a highly-organised and self-motivated Office and IT Manager to run our busy grant-making office. Kent Community Foundation is an energetic and ambitious charity that supports hundreds of voluntary and community organisations across Kent and Medway. So if you want to make a difference to your local community, this could be the job for you. We are looking for someone with a logical and systematic approach as well as a passion for technology and new media who can lead on our IT strategy. You will have a positive, can-do approach working as part of a small hard-working and enthusiastic team, with excellent communication and customer service skills. To find out more about this role, please email admin@kentcf.org.uk or phone 01303 814 500. Salary: £23,000-£25,000 Full-time. Permanent.
To apply/more information:
Kent Community Foundation
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Management, Senior Positions

Development and Marketing Officer

Ashford
Salary c. £21,000- £23,000
Development and Marketing Officer
We are seeking a self-motivated Development and

Marketing Officer to support the growth and expansion of Kent Community Foundation. We are an energetic and ambitious charity that supports hundreds of voluntary and community organisations across Kent and Medway. So if you want to make a difference to your local community, this could be the job for you. We are looking for someone with a successful track record in a business development role. Charity fundraising experience would be helpful but not essential. What is most important is excellent communication and relationship-building skills. You will have a positive, can-do approach working as part of a small hard-working and enthusiastic team, with excellent customer service skills. To find out more about this role, please email admin@kentcf.org.uk or phone 01303 814 500. Salary: c. £21,000- £23,000. Full-time. Permanent.
To apply/more information:
Kent Community Foundation
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Print, Packaging, Distribution

Estimator

Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Celebrating 130 years in the print industry, Headley Brothers Ltd is currently looking to recruit an Estimator. Working within the Commercial team and handling a range of print projects, as Estimator you would be responsible for: Producing accurate estimates, tenders and costings; obtaining pricing from internal sources and suppliers, and preparing price matrices. Liaising with staff, suppliers and customers, to ensure provision of the best possible production alternatives and solutions to client requests. Supporting the Commercial Manager in ensuring the commercial success of the company. The ideal candidate will be self-motivated, highly-driven and dynamic. Have excellent organisational skills. Be a strong team player, with excellent interpersonal skills. Have strong oral, numerical and written communication skills. Estimating experience and/or a knowledge of the print industry would be considered useful, but not essential. Headley Brothers Limited is an investor in people and an equal opportunities employer. Please send your CV to Paul Palmer, Headley Brothers Ltd, The Invicta Press, Queens Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 8HH, or by email to: paul.palmer@headley.co.uk. All applications should include reference number: KOS01. Closing date: Friday 15th April 2011. Please note that responses will only be issued to applicants that are eligible for interview.
To apply/more information:
Headley Brothers Limited
andy.owden@headley.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos01

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

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Kent

Salary TBC
Distributors Wanted Run your own business without the usual risks... and help people save money! Choose your own hours full training and support up-front bonuses earn a second income on-going commission no stock to carry Find out more! Call: 0800 781 2433.
www.minibills.co.uk

To apply/more information:
Utility Warehouse
johnandshella@minibills.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS

Sales People

Canterbury
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:

Your Local Business Marketing info@yourlocalbusinessmarketing.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Car Sales Executive

Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable

To apply/more information:
Invicta Motors
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Fund Raisers/Instore Promotion People

Kent
Salary £6.50 PH plus bonus
National Children's Charity Require

Enthusiastic fund raisers/instore promotion people/collectors To work at venues in the Kent area Full/part-time including weekends. Start £6.50 p.h. plus bonus. Must drive. Please call Sue: 07809 714252.
To apply/more information:
Follow Your Dreams Ltd
sb@followyourdreams.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

PREMISES LICENCES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Licensing Act 2003 Notice of Application for Grant of a Premises Licence Savers Health and Beauty Limited has given to Maidstone Borough Council an application for the grant of a Premises Licence for Savers, 76 Week Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1RJ. The licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on at the premises are the sale by retail of alcohol. The Licensing Register of Maidstone Borough Council is held at The Council Offices, King Street, Maidstone, ME15 6JQ and, where applicable, at www.maidstone.gov.uk. during normal office hours at the Council's above address and, where applicable, at any time on the above website. Representations which shall be made in writing may be made by an interested party or responsible authority to Maidstone Borough Council to be received at their above address by no later than Wednesday, 4 May 2011. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application; the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction being £5,000.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that **Thiyagarajah Arunthavachelvam of 153 Whitehill Road Gravesend Kent DA12 5LS** has applied to Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street Gravesend DA12 1AU for the VARIATION of a Premises Licence for an off licence Extension of Opening Hours are **Monday to Sunday 6am until 11pm** for the premises **Valley Drive Mini Market of 3 The Parade Valley Drive Gravesend DA12 5RT**
Any person wishing to submit representations to my application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 18 April 2011.
The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

Notice of an Application for the Grant of a Premises License (Licensing Act 2003)

Notice is hereby given that Christine Cobourn has applied to Ashford Borough Council for the Grant of a Premises License for Sale of Alcohol from 08:00 until 20:00 Monday to Sunday for the premises The Barn Shop situated at Canterbury Road, Challock, TN25 4BJ.

A register of licensing applications can be viewed at the Licensing Section, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL 01233 330721 by appointment.

Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by – 4th May 2011.

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: The prevention of crime and disorder, Public Safety, the Prevention of Public Nuisance and the Protection of Children from Harm.

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5000), under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.

PLANNING

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/MA/0137/2011 - Proposed development at Leeds & Broomfield CEP School, Lower Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 1RL.

Leeds & Broomfield CEP School is applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for the provision of new access to playground from classroom and the erection of a protective canopy over. The proposed development is within the Lower Street, Leeds Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance. The proposed development also may affect a Public Right of Way.

You may view this application at Maidstone Borough Council, The Gateway Reception, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ or at our offices at the address below during all reasonable office hours. Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 10 April 2011



Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

- 11/00743/FUL Benenden Girls School Cranbrook Road, Benenden**
- Proposed single storey extension to Guildford House housemistress's apartment with first floor balcony (LB)
11/00857/LBC Pippins Gedges Hill, Brenchley
- Listed Building Consent: Replace three windows to front and two to rear of property. Install three secondary double glazing units inside (LB)
11/00900/LBC The Oasis Tearooms 17 High Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building: Removal of internal wall (LB)
11/00896/LBC Barn & Outhouse 20M N Of Park Farmhouse, Horsmonden
- Listed building consent: To retain temporary cover to roof and walls of barn and outhouse, works already carried out (LB)
11/00883/HOUSE 32 Birling Drive Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Single storey rear extension to provide kitchen/breakfast room and replacement of utility room roof with single pitch roof, including extension to create porch area (CA)
11/00920/HOUSE Spenden Old Hall Spenden Lane, Sandhurst
- Replacement garage block (LB)
11/00822/HOUSE Broomlea Langton Road, Speldhurst
- Loft conversion with alteration to roof to include 2 cottage style dormers to rear (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall
Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS
Dated: 09 April 2011



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PUBLIC NOTICE



Property Address:
153 Livingstone Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 2EL

Notice of Offer

We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £79,000.
Any interested party must submit any higher offer in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

Agent Contact Details:
Mann Countrywide, 88 High Street, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 1AX

Tel.No: 01634 851008

To place your notice here
call the Kent Public
Notice team on
01303 817044

PUBLIC NOTICES

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD) (20 MPH SPEED LIMIT ZONE) ORDER 2011 (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2011 (PROHIBITION OF LEFT HAND TURNS) ORDER 2011
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE NEW ROADS AND STREET WORKS ACT 1991 AND THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004

NOTICE is hereby given that The Kent County Council has made Orders under Sections 1, 2 and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended by Schedule 8 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 and part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004, the effect of which has introduced a Restricted Parking and 20mph speed limit zone on a small section of Victoria Road from a point 30.0 metres north west of the mid point of the shared cycle / pedestrian footpath known as “Learning Link”, south eastwards to a point 10.0 metres south east of the mid point of its junction with Victoria Crescent.

The School – Keep Clear Marking in Victoria Road outside of the school entrance will be remarked and be enforced to prevent vehicles causing obstruction to traffic flows. The remaining lengths of Victoria Road, Leacon Road and Gasworks Lane are subject to “At Any Time” Waiting Restrictions; along with a small section of Bowens Field where parked vehicles have caused limited access to the existing footbridge.

It is also proposed under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, that turning left from Victoria Crescent into Victoria Road, Ashford has been prohibited. This is a safety measure preventing larger vehicles that often visit the industrial area in Victoria Crescent, from exiting onto the opposing carriageway of Victoria Road.

A copy of the Orders which shall come into operation on Monday 11th April 2011, an explanatory statement and a map showing the extents of the scheme may be inspected during normal office hours at The Kent County Council Offices, Sessions House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX and at Ashford Borough Council Offices, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

WATER LANE, STURRY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT ducting works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Water Lane, Sturry, on or after 16 April 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A28 Mill Road and Fordwich Road.

It is planned that the works will be carried out on Saturday 16 April and Sunday 17 April, with a further closure on Monday 18 April after 2.00 pm to reinstate the road surface.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, DARTFORD) (PROVISION OF WAITING) CONSOLIDATION (AMENDMENT NO. 8) ORDER 2011

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE NEW ROADS AND STREET WORKS ACT 1991 AND THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2 and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended by Schedule 8 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 and part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004, has made an Order the effect of which has extended the existing “At Any Time” Waiting Restrictions on A226 London Road, Stone in Dartford.

The Kent County Council has secured funding for a safety improvement scheme to the existing crossroads junction at A226 London Road, B2174 Hedge Place Road and Stone Place Road, Stone, Dartford.

This scheme involved the removal of the existing Zebra crossing and the introduction of signal control on all four arms of the junction. As the proposed pedestrian crossings are to be controlled within the traffic signal scheme the standard zig - zag road markings have not be installed.

A copy of the Order which shall come into force on Monday 11th April 2011, an explanatory statement and a map showing the extents of the waiting restrictions may be inspected during normal office hours at the Kent County Council Offices, Sessions House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ, Dartford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1DR and Stone Parish Council Offices, Recreation Ground, London Road, Stone, DA9 9DQ.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision

contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

FULBERT ROAD & ROKESLEY ROAD, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Fulbert Road & Rokesley Road, Dover, on or after 13 April 2011 for up to 8 days or until the works have been completed.

The entire lengths of each road will be closed in rolling sections, as advised and signed on site.

Access will be maintained from either Fulbert Road or Rokesley Road as signed locally, with other access maintained whenever it is safe to do so.

MARINE PARADE, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Marine Parade, Dover, on or after 14 April 2011 for up to 6 weekdays or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Townwall Street and Waterloo Crescent.

The alternative route is via A20 Townwall Street, Snargate Street, Prince of Wales Roundabout to Union Street, Esplanade and Waterloo Crescent.

THE STREET, SHOLDEN, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT works to clear a blockage in a duct in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Street, Sholden, Deal, on or after 26 April 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between numbers 30 and 61.

The alternative route is via The Street, A258 London Road and Sholden New Road.

WILLOW ROAD, GREAT MONGEHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to construct a kerb build-out, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Willow Road, Great Mongeham, on or after 11 April 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Deal Road and Northbourne Road.

The alternative route is via Deal Road, The Street and Northbourne Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, DEAL, DISTRICT OF DOVER) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO. 4) ORDER 2011

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under sections 1, 2 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of this Order will be to introduce no loading or unloading on Monday to Saturday 10.00am – 4.00pm on the following lengths.

HIGH STREET On the eastern side from the junction with Market Street to the junction with King Street.

On the western side from the junction with Stanhope Road for a distance of 40 metres in a southerly direction.

KING STREET On both sides from the junction with High Street for a distance of 20 metres in an easterly direction.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined on Mondays to Fridays in the offices of Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, between 9.00am and 5.00pm and at Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone during normal open hours from 11 April 2011.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order, you should send the grounds for your objection in writing to Highway Services, Transport and Development, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way,

Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to td.eastkent@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 2 May 2011

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (A2260 SPRINGHEAD ROAD, NORTHFLEET) WEIGHT LIMIT RESTRICTION, 2011

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under 1, 2(4) and part IV of Schedule 9 section 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order prohibits any person to cause any vehicle capable of exceeding 7.5 tonnes gross weight from using the A2260 Springhead Road, from the junction with A2260 Hall Road to a point 25 metres south east of the junction with Haldane Gardens subject to exemptions for loading and unloading, emergency service vehicles and public service vehicles:-

The Order was sealed on 4 April 2011 and will come into force 11 April 2011.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Gravesham Borough Council Offices, Civic Centre, Gravesham and at Sessions House, Maidstone during normal opening times from 11 April 2011.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (DUNN STREET ROAD, BREDHURST) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Dunn Street Road from Forge Lane to Lidsing Road on or after Sunday 1st May 2011 for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Forge Lane, Lidsing Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused, which is necessary for highway improvement works. Should you require any further information for these works, please contact Darren Hickman on 08458 247 800.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL HIGH STREET, YALDING (SPECIAL EVENT) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (SPECIAL EVENTS) ACT 1994

Notice is hereby given that whilst an event is taking place on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on the High Street, Yalding.

The Order will be effective between 1400hrs to 2000hrs on the 29th April 2011 or until the event finishes. The road will remain closed when appropriate signage is displayed on site.

The alternative routes for traffic during the event will be signposted. For light vehicles via Vicarage Road, Mill Lane and for large goods vehicles via the B2010/A229 to Maidstone, the A26 Tonbridge Road and A228/B2015/ B2162 or vice versa.

The purpose of the Order is to enable the Royal Wedding street party to take place.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, TOVIL AND EAST FARLEIGH) (40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2010

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council has made an Order under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to impose a 40 miles per hour speed limit on the lengths of roads described in the Schedule hereto.

A copy of the Order, an explanatory statement and maps showing the lengths of road concerned may be

inspected during normal office hours at Kent Highway Services, Network Management, Invicta House, Maidstone Kent, ME14 1XX and at the offices of Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ

The Order was sealed on 8 April 2011 and will come into force 11 April 2011.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone Kent and at the offices of Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ during normal opening times from 11 April 2011.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

Schedule 40mph Speed Limit

In the Parish of East Farleigh

B2010 Lower Road, East Farleigh

From the Parish boundary of Tovil south-westwards to a point 11 metres north-east of the centre line of the access to “Little Court Lodge Farm”

In the Parish of Tovil

B2010 Dean Street, Tovil

From a point in line with the common boundary of house number 143/145 Dean Street south-westwards to the Parish boundary of East Farleigh

C65 Dean Street, Tovil

From its junction with B2010 Dean Street southwards to a point 66 metres north of the centre line of the access road to “Valley Farm”

ROAD FARM LANE, OTTERDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to replace a telegraph pole, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Road Farm Lane, Otterden, on or after 26 April 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Slade Road for a distance of approximately 100 metres northwards.

The alternative route is via Seed Road, Frith Road, Foxen Road, Wyebanks Road and Road Farm Lane.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

STATION ROAD & BROCA ROAD, HEVER - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Station Road & Brocas Road, Hever between Brocas Farm and road leading to Hever Station.

The Order will become effective on 11th April 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 12th April 2011 and last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Hartfield Road, Lydens Lane, New House Farm Road and Hever Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate BT works.

VARIOUS ROADS, SEVENOAKS/DARTFORD/ GRAVESHAM/TONBRIDGE & MALLING/ TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND MAIDSTONE - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are being carried out on or near the road Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on the routes described in schedule 1 and schedule 2 below.

The Order will become effective on 18th April 2011 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The dates shown in the schedules are anticipated dates however actual work dates will be displayed by signage on site 7 days in advance. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

The alternative routes for the restrictions are also stated in the attached schedules.

The roads in schedule 1 will need to be re-closed approximately 7 days after original closure to carry out road sweeping and replacement of lines.

Schedule 1

Sevenoaks

Road Name:	Spring Hill, Penshurst
Extent:	Between The Lane and Sandfield Road
Date:	27th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	B2188 Fordcombe Road, A264 Ashurst Road, Stonecross, A264 Langton Road, Langton Green, A264 Bishops Down, A264 Mount Ephraim, A26 St Johns Road, A26 London Road, Southborough, B2176 Bidborough Ridge, Bidborough, B2176 Penshurst Road, B2176 Rouges Hill, Penshurst, B2188 Fordcombe Road, Penshurst, B2188 New Road, Penshurst and B2188 Saints Hill, Penshurst.
Road Name:	Hopgarden Lane, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	28th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Ashgrove Road, Oak Lane and Grassy Lane
Road Name:	Old London Road, Halstead
Extent:	Between A224 London Road and Watercroft Road
Date:	3rd May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	A224 Orplington by Pass, Wheatsheaf Hill and Old London Road
Road Name:	Honeypot Lane, Kemsing
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	3rd May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Noah's Ark, St Edith's Road, High Street, Heaverham Road and Watery Lane

Dartford

Road Name:	Ship Lane, Sutton at Hone
Extent:	Between A225 Main Road and Church Road
Date:	4th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	A225 Main, A20 Main Road/London Road, Button Street and Wood Street

Gravesham

Road Name:	White Horse Lane, Meopham
Extent:	Between Harvel Road and Dean Lane
Date:	4th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Harvel Street, Harvel Lane and Harvel Road
Road Name:	Cobhambury Road, Cobham
Extent:	Between The Street and Warren Road
Date:	5th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	The Street, Sole Street, Gold Street, Henley Street and Luddesdown Road
Road Name:	Church Lane, Chalk
Extent:	Between A226 Rochester Road and Lower Higham Road
Date:	5th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Lower Higham Road, Vicarage Lane, Chalk Road and A226 Rochester Road
Road Name:	White Post Lane, Cobham
Extent:	Between Round Street and Copt Hall Road
Date:	5th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Round Street and Copt Hall Road
Road Name:	Jeskyns Road, Cobham
Extent:	Between Sole Street and Round Street
Date:	5th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Sole Street and Round Street
Road Name:	Shorne Ifield Road, Shorne
Extent:	Between Mill Hill Lane and Thong Lane
Date:	6th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Crown Lane, Forge Lane, A226 Gravesend Road, A226 Rochester Road and Thong Lane
Road Name:	Telegraph Hill, Higham
Extent:	Between A226 Gravesend Road and Hermitage Road
Date:	6th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Hermitage Road, Forge Lane and A226 Gravesend Road

Tonbridge & Malling

Road Name:	Old Church Lane, East Peckham
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Park Road, Roydon Hall Road and A228 Seven Mile Lane
Road Name:	Roydon Hall Road, East Peckham
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Park Road, Roydon Hall Road and A228 Seven Mile Lane
Road Name:	Bewley Lane, Plaxtol
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	19th April 2011 for 2 working days

Diversion:	between 07.00 – 19.00 A227 Tonbridge Road, Plaxtol Lane, Tree Lane and Yopp Green
Road Name:	Labour in Vain Road, Wrotham
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	19th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Plaxtol Green Road and Tumblefield Road
Road Name:	The Heath, East Malling
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	19th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Wateringbury Road, Chapel Street, High Street, Mill Street, Clare Lane, Broadwater Road and Pikey Lane
Road Name:	Lower Street, Hildenborough
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	27th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Underriver House Road, Mill Lane, B245 Dryhill Park Road and A227 Shipbourne Road
Road Name:	Stan Lane, West Peckham
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	28th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Swanton Road, The Hurst, Gover Hill and Forge Lane
Road Name:	Longmill Lane, Plaxtol
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	3rd May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Dunks Green Road, Hamptons Road, School Lane and The Street
Road Name:	Vigo Hill, Trottisccliffe
Extent:	Between A227 Gravesend Road and Taylors Lane
Date:	4th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	A227 Gravesend Road, A20 London Road, Ford Lane and Taylors Lane
Road Name:	Knowle Road, Wouldham
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	6th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	High Street, School Lane and Pilgrims Way

Tunbridge Wells

Road Name:	Ethnam Lane, Sandhurst
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Frittenden Road, Cranbrook
Extent 1:	Between A229 to Common Road
Extent 2:	Between Common Road to Digdog Lane
Date:	20th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion 1:	Common Road and A229
Diversion 2:	Frittenden Road, Digdog Lane, A262 Sissinghurst Road, High Street and Common Road
Road Name:	London Road, Cranbrook
Extent:	Between Frittenden Road and A229
Date:	20th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Frittenden Road, Common Road and A229
Road Name:	Spongs Lane, Cranbrook
Extent:	Frittenden Road and A229
Date:	20th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Frittenden Road, Common Road and A229
Road Name:	Water Lane, Hawkhurst
Extent:	A268 one way section to St Ronan's School
Date:	31st April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Water Lane, A268 Rye Road, A229 Cranbrook Road, Potters Lane and Water Lane
Road Name:	Glassenbury Road, Cranbrook
Extent:	Between A262 Goudhurst Road and Chalk Lane
Date:	21st April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	A262 Goudhurst Road, A229 Angley Road, Hartley Road and B2085 Glassenbury Road
Road Name:	Church Road, Paddock Wood
Extent:	Between Mile Oak Road and Warrington Road
Date:	26th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Mile Oak Road, Mascalls Court Road, B2169 Maidstone Road, Warrington Road and Church Road
Road Name:	Queen Street, Paddock Wood
Extent 1:	Between Mascalls Court Lane and Church Road
Extent 2:	Between Church Road and Lucks Lane
Date:	26th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion 1:	Mascalls Court Lane, Mascalls Court Road, B2169 Maidstone Road, Warrington Road and Church Road
Diversion 2:	Church Road, Warrington Road, Maidstone Road and Lucks Lane
Road Name:	Fordcombe Road, Speldhurst
Extent:	Between A264 Ashurst Road and

Date:	The Lane 27th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	B2188 Fordcombe Road, Spring Hill, Saints Hill, New Road, Fordcombe Road, B2176 Rouges Hill, Penshurst Road, Bidborough Ridge, A26 London Road, St Johns Road, London Road, A264 Church Road, Mount Ephraim, Bishops Down and Langton Road
Road Name:	Foxhole Lane, Hawkhurst
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	12th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	A268 Rye Road and Hinksden Lane

Maidstone

Road Name:	Peens Lane, Boughton Monchelsea
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Church Hill, Lower Farm Road and Long Lane
Road Name:	Lenham Forstal Road, Lenham
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Forstal Road, Malthouse Lane, A20 Ashford Road/Maidstone Road, Charing Heath Road/Tile Lodge Road and Church Hill
Road Name:	Forstal Road, Lenham
Extent:	Frontage to Lenham Forstal Cottages
Date:	18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Lenham Forstal Road
Road Name:	Broomfield Road, Broomfield
Extent:	Between Ashford Road and Gravelly Bottom Road
Date:	18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Broomfield Road, Chartway Street, A274 Maidstone Road, B2163 Leeds Road/Upper Street/Lower Street/Penfold Hill and A20 Ashford Road
Road Name:	Stickfast Lane, East Sutton
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	18th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	East Sutton Road, A274 Maidstone Road, Tattlebury Road and Tilden Lane
Road Name:	Church Road, Otham
Extent:	Between Firthwood Close to Whitehorse Lane
Date:	19th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Gore Court Road, A274 Sutton Road, Willington Street and Deringwood Drive
Road Name:	Warmlake Road, Chart Sutton
Extent:	Between A274 to Ivans Field
Date:	19th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Amber Lane, Back Lane, Wierton Lane, B2163 Heath Road, Plough Wents Road and A274 Maidstone Road
Road Name:	Wierton Hill, Boughton Monchelsea
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	20th April 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Lower Farm Road, Church Hill, B2163 Heath Road and Wierton Lane
Road Name:	Grange Lane, Boxley
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	6th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Boarley Lane, Sandling Lane and Boxley Road
Road Name:	Underlyn Lane, Marden
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	17th and 24th April 2011 between 09.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	B2079 Maidstone Road/High Street/Church Green/West End/Goudhurst Road, Sheephurst Lane, B2162 Benover Road and Green Lane/Hunton Road

Schedule 2

Sevenoaks

Road Name:	Scabbarbour Road, Leigh
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	19th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Morley Road, B245 London Road, Watts Cross Road and Philpot's Lane
Road Name:	East Hill Road, West Kingsdown
Extent:	Between Goodbury Road and Cherry Tree Grove
Date:	26th May 2011 for 6 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Watery Lane, Kemsing
Extent:	Between Heaverham Road and Honeypot Lane
Date:	27th May 2011 for 8 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Heaverham Road, High Street, St Edith's

	Road, Noah's Ark and Honeypot Lane
Road Name:	Beldham Haws, Halstead
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	1st June 2011 for 6 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Goodbury Road, Shoreham
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	2nd June 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Birchin Cross Road and Clarkes Green Road
Road Name:	Skeet Hill/Park Gate, Crockenhill
Extent:	Between Daltons Road and Golf Course
Date:	6th June 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Skeet Hill Lane, Skibbs Lane, Bucks Cross Road, Hawstead Lane and Well Hill
Road Name:	Zambra Way, Seal
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	7th June 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Lakeview Road, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	8th June 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Lambarde Road, Betenson Avenue and Robyns Way
Road Name:	Gordon Road, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	9th June 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Granville Road and Argyle Road
Road Name:	Argyle Road, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	9th June 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	A224 London Road and Southpark
Road Name:	Gracious Lane, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Between Gracious Bridge and Hubbards Hill
Date:	10th June 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Oak Lane, Ashgrove Road and Weald Road
Road Name:	The Brownings, Edenbridge
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	11th June 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Forcombe Road/Spring Hill, Penshurst
Extent:	Between A264 Ashurst Road and Sandfield Road
Date:	12th June 2011 for 10 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	A264 Ashurst Road, Stonecross, A264 Langton Road, Langton Green, A264 Bishops Down, A264 Mount Ephraim, A26 St Johns Road, A26 London Road, Southborough, B2176 Bidborough Ridge, B2176 Penshurst Road, B2176 Rouges Hill, Penshurst, B2188 Fordcombe Road, Penshurst B2188 New Road, Penshurst, B2188 Saints Hill, Penshurst.
Road Name:	Cowden Pound Road, Hever
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	15th June 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Uckfield Lane, Station Road and Hever Warren Road
Road Name:	Nicholson Way, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire Length
Date:	16th June 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	North Ash Road, Ash Cum Ridley
Extent:	Between Ash Road and Redhill Road
Date:	16th June 2011 for 10 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Ash Road and Redhill Road

Dartford

Road Name:	Hook Green Road, Southfleet
Extent:	Between Whitehill Road and Warren Road
Date:	11th May 2011 for 8 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Dale Road, Station Road, Betsham Road and Highcross Road
Road Name:	Dene Walk, Longfield
Extent:	From Oakwood Rise for its entire length
Date:	14th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Oakwood Rise, Longfield
Extent:	Between Hartley Road and St Marys Way
Date:	14th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Hartley Road, Main Road and St Marys Way
Road Name:	St Marys Way, Longfield
Extent:	From Main Road for its entire length
Date:	15th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name:	Milton Road, Greenhithe
Extent:	Between Church Road and Craylands Lane
Date:	17th May 2011 for 5 working days

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800
(local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

Diversion:	between 07.00 – 19.00 Craylands Lane, London Road and High Street
Road Name: Extent:	Joyce Green Lane, Dartford Between Henderson Drive and Trevithick Drive
Date:	18th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Henderson Drive and Trevithick Drive
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Rosewood, Wilmington From Birchwood Drive for its entire length 19th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Roman Villa Road, Darenth Between Darenth Hill and Holmesdale Hill 19th May 2011 for 7 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Darenth Hill, Green Street Green Road, St Margaret's Road and Holmesdale Hill
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Clement Street, Sutton at Hone Between Arnolds Lane and Goss Hill 23rd June 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Goss Hill, Barn End Lane, High Road, Church Hill, Hawley Road, Main Road and Arnolds Lane

Gravesham	
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Waterlow Road, Vigo Between Erskine Road and Harvel Road 26th April 2011 for 14 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Harvel Road and Erskine Road
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Highview, Meopham From Erskine Road for its entire length 28th April 2011 for 13 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Erskine Road
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Evenden Road, Meopham From Huntingfield Road for its entire length 4th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Highwoods Close, Higham From Fairview Drive for its entire length 4th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Fairview Drive, Gravesend From Oak Drive for its entire length 5th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Beech Grove, Higham Between Taylors Lane and oak Drive 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Taylors Lane, School Lane, Villa Road and Norah Lane
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Ash Crescent, Higham Between Oak Drive and Beech Grove 6th May 2011 for 6 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Oak Drive and Beech Grove
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Oak Drive, Higham Between Norah Lane and Taylors Lane 6th May 2011 for 6 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Norah Lane, Villa Road, School Lane and Taylors Lane
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Cerne Road, Gravesend Between St Francis Avenue and Cambria Crescent 9th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	St Francis Avenue and Cambria Crescent
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Pickwick Gardens, Northfleet Between Dene Holm Road and Masefield Road 10th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Masefield Road, Painters Ash Lane and Dene Holm Road
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Masefield Road, Northfleet Between Painters Ash Lane and Pickwick Gardens 11th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Pickwick Gardens, Dene Holm Road and Painters Ash Lane

Tonbridge & Malling	
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Swanton Road, West Peckham Between The Hurst and B2016 Sevenmile Lane 11th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	The Hurst, Gover Hill, Forge Lane, Mereworth Road, B2016 Sevenmile Lane
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Beechin Wood Lane. Platt Between Long Mill Lane and Comp Lane 13th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Longmill Lane and Comp Lane
Road Name: Extent: Date:	A228 Malling Road, Kingshill Between The Street, Mereworth and Gibson Drive 16th May 2011 for 4 nights between 19.00 – 00.00
Diversion:	A26, B2016 Sevenmile Lane, A20 London

	Road, A228 Ashton Way, King Hill
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Puttenden Road, Shipbourne Between Hamptons Road and Claygate Lane 19th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Hamptons Road and Claygate Lane
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Parkway, Tonbridge Entire Length 21st May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Hopgarden Road
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Hopgarden Road, Tonbridge Entire Length 21st May 2011 for 7 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Sailsbury Road, Norwich Avenue and York Road
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Cophthall Road, Igtham Entire Length 24th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Common Road, A26 Sevenoaks Road and Coach Road

Tunbridge Wells	
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Springhead, Tunbridge Wells Between Ferndale and Ferndale 22nd May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Ferndale
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Beltring Road, Tunbridge Wells Entire Length 22nd May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Birling Drive, Tunbridge Wells Entire Length 23rd May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	St Georges Park, Tunbridge Wells Entire Length 24th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Brenchley Road / Horsmonden Road, Brenchley Between Church Close and Spout Lane 25th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Horsmonden Road, B2162 Maidstone Road, Yew Tree Green Road, Crook Road, Windmill Hill and Brenchley Road

Maidstone	
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Attwater Close, Lenham Entire Length 28th April 2011 for 7 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Tilefields, Hollingbourne Entire Length 28th April 2011 for 7 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	South Green Lane, Stockbury Entire Length 3rd May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	South Lees Lane, Rumstead Road, Rumstead Lane and A249
Road Name: Extent: Date:	The Street, Stockbury Entire Length 4th May 2011 for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Hill Green Road, Cradles Road, Lower Hartlip Road, Cowstead Lane and Bull Lane
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Blind Lane, Detling Entire Length 4th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Fauchions Close, Bearsted Entire Length 5th May 2011 for 2 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Cambridge Crescent, Shepway Entire Length 5th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Notttingham Road, Hereford Road and Northumberland Road

Road Name: Extent: Date:	Priony Close, East Farleigh Entire Length 6th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Whitebeam Drive, Coxheath Entire Length 7th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Pembroke Road, Hanover Road, Cobtree Road and Linden Road
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Norton Road, Sutton Valence Entire Length 8th May 2011for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Warmlake Road, Amber Lane, Wierton Road and B2163 Plough Wents Road
Road Name: Extent 1:	Broomfield Road, Broomfield Between Ashford Road and Gravelly Bottom Road

Extent 2:	Between Gravelly Bottom Road and Chartway Street
Date:	9th May 2011 for 5 working days between 09.30 – 15.30
Diversion 1:	Gravelly Bottom Road, Lenham Road, Water Lane, Chegworth Road and A20 Ashford Road.
Diversion 2:	Chartway Street and Gravelly Bottom Road.
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Bushy Grove, Broomfield Entire Length 10th May 2011 for 3 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Chestnut Drive, Ashford Road, Broomfield Road, Gravelly Bottom Road and Caysier Drive
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Ulcombe Road, Ulcombe Entire Length 10th May 2011 for 5 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	Kings Road, A274 Maidstone Road/ Mill Bank and Tattlebury Road
Road Name: Extent: Date:	Lower Road, Sutton Valence Entire Length 17th June 2011for 4 working days between 07.00 – 19.00
Diversion:	High Street and Rectory Lane

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate Carriageway Surfacing Dressing works (schedule 1) and Carriageway Micro Surfacing works (schedule 2) to be undertaken by Kent Highway Services.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

BEACHBOROUGH, NEWINGTON, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of tree surgery works to remove overhanging tree canopy, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Beachborough, Newington, Folkestone on or after 17 April 2011 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the entrance to 'Coombe Farm' and the entrance to 'Little Orchard'. There will be no access for through traffic between Folkestone and Etchinghill.

The alternative route is via A20 Ashford Road, M20 between junctions 12 & 13, (non-motorway traffic via B2064 Cheriton High Street, Cheriton Road and Cherry Garden Avenue) A20, A260 Spitfire Way, Canterbury Road, A2 Dover Road, Bonny Bush Hill, Black Robin Lane, Valley Road, Derrington Hill, Elham Valley Road and Canterbury Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

VARIOUS ROADS, THANET (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of surface dressing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Thanet, on or after 27 April 2011 for up to 3 months or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, planned dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below. There are 2 closures for each road, firstly 1 day for Surfacing Dressing and then 1 day for sweeping & lining.

SEAMARK ROAD, BIRCHINGTON
Surfacing on 27 April 2011 then sweeping & lining on 4 May 2011
Alternative route via A28 Canterbury Road, A299 Thanet Way and Seamark Road
Access to Thanet Earth from A299 will be unaffected

PARK ROAD, BIRCHINGTON
Surfacing on 27 April 2011 then sweeping & lining on 4 May 2011
Alternative routes
EAST BOUND via Shottendane Road, Minster Road, Canterbury Road, Charlesworth Drive and The Parkway
WEST BOUND via Shottendane Road, Manston Road, Park Lane, Stone Barn Avenue, Linnington Road and Cornford Road

THE STREET, ACOL
Surfacing on 10 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 17 May 2011
Alternative route via B2050 Manston Road, B2190 Spitfire Way and Minster Road

MANSTON COURT ROAD, MARGATE
Surfacing on 28 April 2011 then sweeping & lining on 5 May 2011
Alternative route via B2050 Manston Road and A256 Haine Road

MINSTER ROAD, WESTGATE
Surfacing on 28 April 2011 then sweeping & lining on 5 May 2011
Alternative route via Shottendane Road, Garlinge High Street and Canterbury Road

COTTINGTON ROAD, CLIFFSEND
Surfacing on 10 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 17 May 2011

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800
(local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Alternative route via Foads Lane, Cliffs End Road, Sandwich Road, Canterbury Road West, A299 Thanet Way, Tothill Street, Foxborough Lane, The Lanes and Grinsell Hill

NASH ROAD, MARGATE
Surfacing on 22 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 29 May 2011

Alternatives route via Tivoli Road, Beatrice Road (return via College Road), Ramsgate Road, Margate Road and A256 Haine Road

Planned dates are given for each road, but the works are weather dependant and part of a major programme, so it is likely there will be some minor changes.

Roads that are missed will be deferred until further on in the programme, with the revised dates locally signposted.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (STATION ROAD, DITTON) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) (PROHIBITION OF LEFT TURN) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the eastbound slip road of Station Road and prohibiting Large Goods Vehicles from turning left onto the A20 London Road from Station Road on or after Monday 11th April 2011 for a period of up to 12 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Hall Road and A20 London Road.

South East Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for mains reinforcement. Should you require any further information for these works, please contact Robert Anthony on 01634 276259.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL HIGH STREET, WEST MALLING (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011/12

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is taking place on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on High Street, West Malling, between the entrance to the short stay car park (adj. 107 High Street) and the junction with Swan Street.

The Order will become effective on 17th April 2011 for the dates shown in schedule 1 below, between the hours of 6am to 2pm or until the time stated next to that date. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place for the durations of the events. Access will be maintained at all times as much as is possible.

The alternative route for High Street, West Malling will be via A228 Ashton Way, A20 London Road and Town Hill. The alternative route for Castle Way, Leybourne will be via Oxley Shaw Lane.

The purpose of the Order is to enable the Farmers Market, the Christmas lights switch on and the Royal Wedding street party to take place.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

Schedule 1
Sunday 17th April 2011
Sunday 24th April 2011
Friday 29th April 2011 (until 8.00pm)
Sunday 22nd May 2011 (until 5.00pm)
Sunday 26th June 2011
Sunday 24th July 2011
Sunday 28th August 2011
Sunday 25th September 2011
Sunday 23rd October 2011
Sunday 27th November 2011 (until 8.00pm)
Sunday 18th December 2011
Sunday 22nd January 2012
Sunday 26th February 2012
Sunday 25th March 2012

Katherine Kerswell, Group Managing Director
Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone
Kent, ME14 1XQ
Dated 10th April 2011



HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS – Borough Maidstone

(EYHORNE STREET, HOLLINGBOURNE)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Eyhorne Street, Hollingbourne on or after Monday 11th April 2011 for a period of up to 21 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Eyhorne Street , Upper Street, Hollingbourne Hill, The Street, Bredgar, Primrose Lane, Tunstall, Tunstall Road, Woodstock Road, Bell Road, St Michael Road A2, Dover Street A2, West Street A2 London Road A2 Key Street A2 Bearsted Road A249, Sittingbourne Road A249, Ashford Road A20.

Southern Gas Networks Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to provide a Gas mains re-enforcement. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Keith White on 07770 730572.

(BROADWATER ROAD,WEST MALLING)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY
ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Broadwater Road West Malling from the railway approximately 200m north, on or after Wednesday 27th April 2011 for a period of up to 10 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is via Well Street, Stickens Lane, Mill Street, Clare Lane and vice versa.

UK Power Networks apologise for the inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Steve Bicknell on 07920 150789.

For further information or comment please call Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

(OXLEY SHAW LANE, LEYBOURNE) (PROHIBITION
OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS
AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY
RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Oxley Shaw Lane, Leybourne between Roundhay and A20 London Road, on or after Monday 11th April 2011 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is via Lillieburn and A228 Castle Way and vice versa.

Kent Highways Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to upgrade the traffic signals at A20 London Road junction with A228 Castle Way. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Ian Brooks on 01622 666212.

For further information or comment please call Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

KATHERINE KERSWELL
Group Managing Director
Kent County Council
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 2XQ

For further information
please contact Kent Highway
Services on 08458 247 800
(local rate) or visit
www.kent.gov.uk/highways



To place your notice here
call the
Kent Public Notice team
on
01303 817044

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

PROW - Borough of Ashford

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH AW136 (PART) WESTWELL)

PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND
STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2010

On 03 March 2011 Kent County Council confirmed the above Order under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of that Order as confirmed is to divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered AW136 which commences on the eastern side of the drainage ditch at NGR TQ 99493 46850 (Point A) and runs in a east south easterly direction for 66 metres, thence in a south easterly direction for 186 metres, thence in a easterly direction for 154 metres and thence in a north easterly direction for 231 metres to connect with the existing length of AW136, 44 metres from its connection with Tumbledown Hill (NGR TR 00027 469940 (Point B)) to a new length of length of public footpath numbered AW136, with a width of 2 metres, which commences on the eastern side of the drainage ditch at BGR TQ 99493 46850 (Point A) and runs in a easterly direction for 220 metres, where the footpath crosses the access road to Shottenden Manor for a distance of 6 metres, and thence continuing in a easterly direction for 315 metres to rejoin the existing line of AW136 at a point 44 metres from its connection with Tumbledown Hill (NGR TR 00027 469940 (Point B)). As shown on the Order Plan.

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL or at the Environment and Waste Unit at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

The Order comes into force on 31 March 2011, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 09 April 2011, make an application to the High Court.

PROW - Borough of Dartford

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO
TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS DS1, DS30 &
DS3

IN THE PARISH OF SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE

(Public Footpaths, DS1, DS30 & DS3 in the Parish of Swanscombe & Greenhithe)

(Prohibition Of Traffic) Temporary Order 2011

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 14(1), As Amended By The Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991.

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close:

The above notice(s) may be provided in other formats

For further information, please contact
Kent Countryside Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess



Public Footpaths DS1, DS30 & DS3, between point (National Grid Reference) NGR TQ 595 754 and NGR TQ 595 751 from the 25th April 2011.

The paths will be closed for a maximum of six months, however the works are likely to extend beyond this time limit and an extension may be applied for.

The paths are to be closed to allow groundworks in connection with Ingress Park secondary means of access and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is through Ingress Park along Duncannon Place and Portland Place to rejoin DS1 at the riverside and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Olivia Bonham
Tel: 01732 872829 (3).

PROW - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

WILDLIFE & COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH MR235 (PART) WROTHAM)

PUBLIC PATH EXTINGUISHMENT AND DEFINITIVE MAP
AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

The above Order made under Section 118 of the Highways Act 1980 will extinguish the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered MR235 which commences at its junction with Pilgrims Way – 20 metres from the junction of Pilgrims Way and Old London Road – at NGR TQ 61004 59584 (Point A) and runs in a northerly direction for a distance of 39 metres to NGR TQ 61004 59584 (Point B).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ or the Kent County Council, Environment & Waste at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Sonia Coventry at the address below (Tel: 01622 221512) (email: sonia.coventry@kent.gov.uk) before 13 May 2011. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

If no representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

Kent County Council
Countryside Access Service
Invicta House
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX
Tel: 01622 221512

Dated: 09 April 2011

MARRIAGE LICENSES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949
AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made by Redrays, Biddenden Road, Frittenden, Cranbrook to Kent County Council, to grant an approval for a ceremony at this premise.

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper.

Objections should be sent to the following address
Giles Adey, Head of Registration,
Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: The Pavilion on the Sands,
Harbour Street, Broadstairs
Mr Francis Thorley

Applicant:
The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Grangemoor Hotel,
St Michaels Road, Maidstone
Mrs Chantelle Jones

Applicant:
The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: The Dover Marina Hotel,
The Waterfront, Dover
David Otteson

Applicant:
The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
1st Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone, ME14 1XX



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

Applications have been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as venues for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Best Western Abbots Barton Hotel, 36 New
Dover Road, Canterbury
Christine Cooper

Applicant:
Name of Premises: Whitstable Castle, Tower Hill, Whitstable
Applicant: Darren Simpson

The applications and plans of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Ratsbury Barn, Smallhythe Road, Tenterden
Applicant: Mrs Jane Kirk

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Hartlip Place, Hartlip, Sittingbourne
Applicant: Mrs Gillian Yerburgh

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX





Driving

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Peugeot launch big assault on D-sector

By **SAM DAVISON**

PEUGEOT launches a potent new upmarket contender this month in the family car or D-sector of the UK car market.

Formerly known as the 'Mondeo' sector due to the ubiquitous Ford, it has since become a fierce battleground where German premium models fare just as well as those from mainstream marques.

The fact is, company car sales still dominate volumes here and 'user choosers' want premium models like the BMW 3-Series and Audi A4.

Such upmarket cars also sell better on the used market after their three years or so on company service, which means less depreciation and lower overall running costs.

It was an equation that didn't add up for Peugeot's outgoing model in this arena, the 507: it wasn't a great drive, didn't look too sharp despite some brave styling and the huge gaping maw of a grille dated quickly. In short, it depreciated badly.



However, these weaknesses seem to have been addressed by its successor, the 508 saloon and SW (sporting estate), which oozes quality and has chic styling based on the French marque's much lauded SR1 Concept Car.

The interior of the 508 combines hi-tech with the use of high quality materials and every detail has been chosen to offer indisputable perceived quality, both visually

and to the touch – an area where Peugeot has really raised the stakes in a few short years, notably with the middleweight 308 and 308CC, the 3008 crossover and the 5008 people carrier.

Peugeot also claims exceptional interior space, a generous boot, and a range of powertrains that lower CO2 and optimise fuel efficiency, while enhancing performance and driveability.



Stop-start technology is also available to cut emissions and consumption and there will be a diesel hybrid model in due course.

Priced from £18,150, the 508 range will also include a GT version with different front suspension for keen drivers.



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Fiat, the car brand with the lowest average CO₂ emissions in Europe.† Fuel consumption figures for the Fiat Punto MyLife 1.28v mpg (l/100km) and CO₂ emissions: Urban 42.4 (6.7), Extra Urban 64.2 (4.4), Combined 54.3 (5.2), CO₂ emissions 123 g/km. Price relates to illustrated model Punto MyLife 3 door in Ambient White paint finish and includes 15" alloy wheels, air conditioning, Blue&Me hands-free entertainment system, Start&Stop, dark tinted headlights, fog lights and new Piano Black bumpers. Terms & Conditions apply. Retail customers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. With Fiat i-Deal you have the option to return the vehicle and not pay the final payment, subject to the vehicle not having exceeded an agreed annual mileage (a charge of 6p per mile for exceeding 10,000 miles per annum in this example) and being in good condition. Offer subject to status. A guarantee or indemnity may be required. Fiat Financial Services, PO Box 108, Leeds LS27 0WU. April to June 2011 offer. Fiat Deposit Contribution available on Fiat Punto MyLife models, and is only available in conjunction with Fiat i-Deal Low Cost. Prices correct at time of printing. Offer may be varied and withdrawn at any time. Subject to availability. Dealer Name, Street Name, Town, City Postcode. We work with a number of creditors to provide finance to our customers, including Fiat Financial Services. †Source: JATO Dynamics. Based on Volume-weighted average CO₂ emissions (g/km) of the best selling brands in Europe, year 2010.

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Fiat rolls back years and

DrivingReview

by

SAM DAVISON

Fiat 500C TwinAir

FIAT continues to amaze the market with a remarkable comeback to financial health and technical innovation.

The Italian brand also has a knack of linking the past with the future, as shown by the Fiat 500C TwinAir, tested this week.

The 'C' denotes that this is the convertible version (from £12,665), but like the open-top roof from the 1950s Fiat 500 Nuevo that inspired the curvy retro lines of the current 500, it is not a full crotchtop – wind-ruffling comes via a fully-opening roof and the side pillars stay firmly in place.

But that is not the only link with the past, because the car also features a little twin-cylinder petrol engine – the sort of unit that helped get the motoring masses of Italy on the move a few decades ago.

But this modern-day 875cc equivalent also has the capacity – no pun intended – to get the whole world's motoring masses on the move again as we now look to downsize and cut our emissions and fuel consumption.

Called the Twin-Air, Fiat rightly claims that it might be small in size and ecological footprint, but not performance. Thanks to nifty tur-



bocharging, this tiny engine in this tiny car outpunches many bigger contenders. It's fun to throw around, and green, too.

Most cars that limbo beneath the 100g/km CO2 bar to become exempt from road tax are diesel or hybrid, but this petrol marvel escapes that too and without being a drag to drive.

Why would you want a weighty diesel – though you can have one in a 500 and pay more

if you wish – when you can have fun with this petrol marvel that averages nearly 70mpg? That's only slightly less than the diesel and it will out-accelerate that too, taking just 10.5 seconds to hit 62mph.

With a diesel more expensive, the fuel costing more at the pumps and a road tax bill to pay on top, there really isn't much of an argument that can be advanced for buying that instead of

a TwinAir or, indeed, the 500's 1.2 and 1.4-litre petrol alternatives.

But you knew there was a catch didn't you? Yes, the TwinAir has that thrumming beat that sounds like there is a box of angry pheasants under the bonnet. It's not a deal breaker though when there are so many plusses.

As for going for the convertible: the 500C's not a car that many blokes will buy, especially

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roof on new 500C



in the dainty blue of the test car – I drove in heavy disguise when I had the top down and one of the week's best wisecracks was "you'll pull the boys in that!"

But the 500 package is hard to resist, with a myriad of options including some stylish leather seats, to enhance the retro premium interior.

The test car came in luxurious Lounge trim with smart alloys, though a price tag of 15 grand starts to put it into BMW Mini Convertible territory – a slightly more butch pram for the boys to buy.

The roof also removes the hatchback convenience leaving a pretty awkward boot opening, though the rear seats still fold and allow some crammability and you can, of course, chuck stuff in via the open roof.

Like the Mini though, it should hold its value on the used market – helped by the many customisation options – and there is the assurance of good reliability due to shared underpinnings



from the Fiat Panda five-door runabout.

The Panda's robustness was underlined to me last year when the manager of a car hire

firm on a Greek island assured me that the little Fiat was the most bulletproof car on his fleet – praise indeed.

DrivingPortfolio

FIAT 500C TWINAIR LOUNGE £15,265

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★
Value	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How Green?	★★★★★
Road tax	£zero
Best rival	BMW Mini Convertible

The Verdict



DON'T LIKE:

the twee image and the TwinAir engine can be noisy



NOT SURE:

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STYLED, COMFORTABLE 4 X BERTH COACHBUILT
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2010(60) VAUXHALL MERIVA SE CDTI TO MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles	£16,995	
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2010(60) VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG SDR HATCH AUTO, NIMBUS GREY, 999 miles	£12,995	
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2010(60) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, RED, 600 miles	£11,995	
2010(60) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 300 miles	£11,995	
2010(60) FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles	£11,995	
2009(09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles	£10,995	
2010(60) PEUGEOT 308 S SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles	£10,995	
2010(60) FORD FUSION TITANIUM SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles	£10,995	
2010(10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles	£9,995	
2010(10) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles	£9,995	
2010(60) RENAULT MODUS GRAND DYNAMIQUE VVT SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 250 miles	£9,995	
2010(10) RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT SDR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMON BLUE, 1000 miles	£9,995	
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2007(57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles	£9,995	
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles	£8,995	
2006(60) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles	£7,995	
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2010(60) FORD FIESTA TITANIUM SDR HATCH AUTO, HOT MAGENTA, 2000 miles	£12,995	
2010(60) FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles	£11,995	
2009(58) FORD FIESTA STYLE PLUS SDR HATCH AUTO, MOONDUST SILVER, 3000 miles	£8,995	
2007(57) FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles	£6,995	
FOCUS HATCH & SALOON		
2009(09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles	£10,995	
2008(08) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles	£8,495	
2008(58) FORD FOCUS STYLE SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 11000 miles	£8,495	
2008(08) FORD FOCUS STYLE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 miles	£7,995	
2008(57) FORD FOCUS STYLE SDR HATCH AUTO, MOONDUST SILVER, 14000 miles	£6,995	
2005(55) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 miles	£5,995	
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2007(07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 T5TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles	£8,995	
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2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles	£7,995	
2008(57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles	£6,995	
RENAULT		
2010(59) RENAULT SCENIC EXPRESSION VVT MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles	£11,995	
2010(10) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles	£9,995	
2010(60) RENAULT MODUS GRAND DYNAMIQUE VVT SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 250 miles	£9,995	
2010(10) RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT SDR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMON BLUE, 1000 miles	£9,995	
2007(57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles	£9,995	
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles	£8,995	
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2008(58) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles	£7,495	
2007(57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles	£6,995	
2006(56) RENAULT LAGUNA EXPRESSION SPORT TOURER 16V ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles	£6,995	
2008(57) RENAULT MODUS DYNAMIQUE S VVT SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles	£6,495	
CHEVROLET		
2009(09) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles	£6,995	
2008(58) CHEVROLET AVEO LT SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 miles	£6,995	
2009(58) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles	£6,995	
2008(58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles	£5,995	
2008(08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles	£5,995	
2006(56) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles	£4,995	
2008(57) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 24000 miles	£4,495	
HYUNDAI		
2008(58) HYUNDAI GETZ GSI SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles	£6,995	
2008(08) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, WINE RED, 13000 miles	£6,495	
2008(08) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles	£6,495	
2008(08) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, WINE RED, 7000 miles	£6,495	
2007(57) HYUNDAI ACENT ATLANTIC LIMITED EDITION 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles	£5,995	
2008(08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles	£5,995	
2007(57) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI SALOON AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles	£5,995	
2008(08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 24000 miles	£5,495	
2006(56) HYUNDAI GETZ CDX SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 9000 miles	£5,495	
2005(54) HYUNDAI GETZ CDX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles	£4,695	
KIA		
2009(09) KIA CEED GS SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9900 miles	£8,995	
2009(59) KIA PICANTO STRIKE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles	£6,995	
DAIHATSU		
2008(08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles	£6,995	
2008(08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles	£6,995	
2007(57) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles	£6,495	
2007(07) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles	£5,995	
2007(07) DAIHATSU SIRION 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles	£5,995	

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2010(10) FIAT PUNTO EVO DYNAMIC DIALOGIC SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 500 miles	£9,495	
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2010(60) FORD FUSION TITANIUM SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles	£10,995	
2010(10) FORD FUSION ZETEC SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles	£9,995	
2008(08) FORD FUSION FUSION + SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles	£7,995	
2009(09) FORD FUSION FUSION + SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles	£7,495	
CITROEN		
2000(X) CITROEN SAKO SX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 50000 miles	£2,495	
CORSA		
2009(59) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 miles	£9,495	
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC SDR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles	£9,495	
2009(09) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 4000 miles	£8,995	
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles	£8,995	
2007(57) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles	£8,495	
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles	£8,495	
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 10000 miles	£7,995	
2007(57) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, LANCELOT GOLD, 5000 miles	£6,995	
2005(54) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles	£5,495	
MAZDA		
2008(08) MAZDA 5 S TS2 MPV AUTO, GOLD, 15000 miles	£9,995	
2008(58) MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA SDR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles	£9,995	
2008(08) MAZDA 3 3 TS2 SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles	£8,995	
2006(56) MAZDA 6 S TS SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 miles	£7,495	
2007(57) MAZDA 2 2 CAPELLA SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles	£6,495	
2007(56) MAZDA 2 2 S SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles	£5,495	
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2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles	£9,495	
2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles	£8,995	
2007(57) SUZUKI SX4 GLX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles	£7,495	
2007(57) SUZUKI IGNIS GL VVT-S SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles	£5,995	
TOYOTA		
2006(56) TOYOTA RAV4 X4 VTI ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 35000 miles	£13,995	
2007(57) TOYOTA PRIUS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles	£12,995	
2010(10) TOYOTA IQ VTI-I SDR HATCH AUTO, PURPLE, 5000 miles	£9,495	
2007(57) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I MM SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles	£8,995	
2007(07) TOYOTA AURIS T3 VTI-I MM SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles	£7,995	
2008(08) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VTI-I MM SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles	£7,995	
2005(54) TOYOTA YARIS VERSO T SPIRIT VVT-I MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles	£7,495	
2005(55) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 5000 miles	£6,995	
2005(55) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles	£6,995	
2005(55) TOYOTA YARIS VERSO T3 VTI-I MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 25000 miles	£5,495	
2007(56) TOYOTA YARIS ZINC MMT SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 26000 miles	£5,995	
2007(57) TOYOTA AYGO BLACK VVT-I MM SDR HATCH, BLACK, 20000 miles	£5,995	
2004(04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles	£5,495	
NISSAN		
2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLADE SILVER, 10000 miles	£19,995	
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles	£17,995	
2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 5000 miles	£16,995	
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, FIRED IRON, 7000 miles	£15,995	
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLADE SILVER, 9000 miles	£15,995	
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles	£15,995	
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles	£15,495	
2010(60) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 300 miles	£11,995	
2007(07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA SDR HATCH, BLADE SILVER, 4000 miles	£11,995	
2009(09) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles	£9,995	
2009(59) NISSAN MICRA 25 CONVERTIBLE CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, EMOTION RED, 11000 miles	£9,995	
2009(59) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles	£8,495	
2010(10) NISSAN PIXO N-TEC SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 miles	£7,995	
2009(59) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1400 miles	£7,995	
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 10000 miles	£7,995	
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, BLADE SILVER, 16000 miles	£7,995	
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, ORANGE, 21000 miles	£6,995	
2007(57) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 18000 miles	£6,995	
2007(57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles	£6,995	
2006(56) NISSAN NOTE SE MPV AUTO, ORANGE, 21000 miles	£5,995	
2005(04) NISSAN ALMERA SE SDR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 9000 miles	£4,995	
2005(05) NISSAN ALMERA S SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles	£4,995	
ASTRA HATCHBACKS		
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 15000 miles	£9,995	
2009(59) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles	£9,495	
2009(59) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 3DR HATCH AUTO, TECHNICAL GREY, 5000 miles	£9,495	
2010(59) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles	£9,495	
2009(59) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC SDR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 2000 miles	£8,995	
2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 14000 miles	£8,995	
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles	£8,495	
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles	£8,495	
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 11000 miles	£7,495	
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 19000 miles	£6,995	
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 20000 miles	£6,995	
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BEIGEBUFF, 14000 miles	£6,495	
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles	£5,995	
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC SDR HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 17000 miles	£5,995	
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles	£5,995	
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles	£5,995	
2008(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles	£5,995	
NEW MODEL ASTRA		
2010(10) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE SDR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 950 miles	£15,995	
2010(10) VAUXHALL ASTRA SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles	£14,995	
2010(10) VAUXHALL ASTRA SRI SDR HATCH AUTO, STAR SILVER, 1900 miles	£13,995	
ASTRA ESTATES		
2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles	£7,995	
2009(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles	£7,995	
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles	£6,995	
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles	£6,995	
2006(56) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 18000 miles	£6,495	
2006(56) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles	£5,995	

ZAFIRA MERIVA & AGILA		
2009(09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TO MPV AUTO, ICE GREEN, 9000 miles		£12,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles		£9,995
2010(59) VAUXHALL MERIVA CLUB 16V MPV AUTO, STEEL BLUE, 3000 miles		£9,495
2005(05) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 5995 miles		£9,000
2008(08) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, STEEL BLUE, 11000 miles		£8,995
2009(59) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, GOLD, 3000 miles		£8,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles		£8,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles		£8,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles		£7,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, TURQUOISE, 13000 miles		£7,995
2008(57) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles		£6,995
PEUGEOT		
2010(60) PEUGEOT 308 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles		£10,995
2007(57) PEUGEOT 307 S COUPE CABRIOLET COUPE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles		£9,995
2010(10) PEUGEOT 207 S 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 miles		£9,495
2008(08) PEUGEOT 307 SW SE ESTATE AUTO, DIABLO RED, 13000 miles		£8,995
2008(08) PEUGEOT 307 SW SE ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 miles		£8,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles		£7,995
2010(60) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN SDR HATCH AUTO, RED, 850 miles		£7,995
2007(57) PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 2000 miles		£6,995
MITSUBISHI		
2007(57) MITSUBISHI LANCER ELEGANCE ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 19000 miles		£6,995
HONDA		
2008(57) HONDA CR-V I-YTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles		£17,995
2007(57) HONDA CR-V ES AUTO SDR AUTO, SPARKLING GREY, 17000 miles		£17,995
2007(07) HONDA CR-V I-YTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 24000 miles		£16,995
2006(06) HONDA CR-V I-YTEC SE ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 26000 miles		£11,995
2008(08) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles		£9,995
2008(08) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles		£8,995
2007(07) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 8000 miles		£8,495
MERCEDES		
2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 COMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 20000 miles		£23,995
2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 AVANTGARDE SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles		£13,995
2010(60) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, MOUNTAIN GREY, 1610 miles		£13,995
2009(59) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE SDR TO HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles		£13,995
2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE SDR TO HATCH AUTO, STEPPED BROWN, 13000 miles		£12,995
2007(57) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180K AVANTGARDE SE SALOON AUTO, CUBANITE SILVER, 29000 miles		£22,995
2007(57) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles		£17,995
2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 AVANTGARDE SE 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles		£9,995
2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles		£8,995
2002(02) MERCEDES-BENZ SLK SLK230 COMPRESSOR CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 38000 miles		£7,995
VOLKSWAGEN		
2010(60) VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, NIMBUS GREY, 999 miles		£12,995
2008(57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH FSI 115 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles		£11,995
2007(08) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 17000 miles		£9,995
2007(08) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles		£9,995
2006(59) VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 10000 miles		£9,995
2007(07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 13000 miles		£7,995
2007(57) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (80BHP) SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles		£7,995
2007(07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 3DR HATCH AUTO, REFLEX SILVER, 16000 miles		£7,495
DIESEL AUTOMATICS		
2009(59) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE CDI FAP TURBO MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles		£16,995
2010(60) VAUXHALL MERIVA SE CDTI TO MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles		£16,995
2010(60) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA ELITE CDTI TURBO MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles		£16,995
2009(59) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE SDR TO HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles		£13,995
2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE SDR TO HATCH AUTO, STEPPED BROWN, 13000 miles		£12,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TO MPV AUTO, ICE GREEN, 9000 miles		£12,995
MORRIS'S MANUAL CARS		
2009(F) FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 3DR HATCH, WHITE, 3000 miles		£9,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL MERIVA ENERGY CDTI TO MPV, BLACK, 24000 miles		£9,995
2006(06) JAGUAR X-TYPE S D TO SALOON, RED, 72000 miles		£9,995
2005(55) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 COLOUR COLLECTION VVT-I SDR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 33000 miles		£8,995
2006(06) FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V SDR HATCH, AMETHYST, 35000 miles		£5,495
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V TWINPORT SDR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 2000 miles		£5,495
2007(57) VAUXHALL YARIS I SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles		£5,495
2008(08) RENAULT TWINGO DYNAMIQUE 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles		£5,495
2007(07) KIA PICANTO 1.5 SDR HATCH, BLUE, 17000 miles		£5,495
2003(03) PEUGEOT 206 CC SILVER COUPE, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 27000 miles		£4,495
2007(07) FIAT PANDA DYNAMIC SDR HATCH, GREY, 8000 miles		£4,495
2005(55) VAUXHALL AGILA ENJOY 16V TWINPORT MPV, GOLD, 20000 miles		£3,995
2006(06) FORD KA DESIGN 3DR HATCH, BLACK, 39000 miles		£3,695
2004(04) CITROEN C3 L SDR HATCH, WHITE, 35000 miles		£3,495
2002(52) VAUXHALL ASTRA COMFORT 16V SDR HATCH, BLUE, 41000 miles		£2,695
SKODA		
2008(58) SKODA ROOMSTER 2 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles		£8,995
QASHQAI		
2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1000 miles		£20,995
2010(09) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLADE SILVER, 10000 miles		£19,995
2010(09) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles		£19,495
2010(09) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles		£17,995
2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles		£17,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles		£15,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 7000 miles		£15,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, FIRED IRON, 9000 miles		£15,995
2008(08) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA SDR HATCH AUTO, LATE LATE, 10000 miles		£15,995
2008(08) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 4WD SDR HATCH AUTO 4x4, ORANGE, 17000 miles		£15,995
2008(58) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles		£15,495
2007(07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA SDR HATCH, BLADE SILVER, 4000 miles		£11,995
FIESTA		
2008(58) FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, STRATOS SILVER, 11000 miles		£7,995
2008(58) FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, MAUIVE, 5000 miles		£7,995
2008(08) FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 5000 miles		£6,995

MyMoney24

Online this week at

www.mymoney24.co.uk:

Equality ruling sees both sexes lose out

Q In February you advised a young woman reader to sort out her car insurance as quickly as possible because a court ruling was expected to put up her premiums to match those of young men, even though they are a higher risk than young women. I have read since then that this is exactly what has happened, but I have seen nothing about the other point you made, about men's pensions being cut. Has this gone ahead as well? I am 59 and a self-employed electrician. My pension plan is with Aviva. Am I affected? **LL**

A Bad news for you and other self-employed men, I am afraid. The European Court of Justice ruled that it was unlawful for insurance companies to take gender into account in deciding on any kind of risk. This is why young women drivers are going to see a big rise in the cost of car insurance, when they are bundled together with young men who statistically have far more accidents. At the other end of the age scale, private pensions are affected because men and women will have to be offered the same pension, even though women live longer than men. Until now, private pension plans have made bigger payments to men because they will typically die three or four years earlier than women. That has meant the insurance companies that operate these plans know that they will not have to pay male pensioners for as long as women, so they can afford to pay a little more. For example, if you had reached 65 a few months ago, with a pension pot of £100,000, you could have turned this into an annuity – a pension for life – of about £6,560 a year. A woman of the same age would have been offered about £6,000, because she would have been expected to draw her pension for a few years more than you. When the court judgment takes full effect, which looks like being next year, the woman of your age looks set to get £6,100 a year – a rise of £100 – while you are likely to be quoted exactly the same £6,100 – a fall of £460. There is no way round this. Our courts and our Parliament have no power to over-rule the European decision. If you have been counting on reaching a certain level of pension income, all you can do is put more into your pension plan or carry on working longer, in order to get back to square one.

Q I saw the letter from the reader who was refused compensation over Bradford & Bingley shares. Like most shareholders, I received shares when the building society became a bank. But I, like others, put in more money to keep the troubled bank afloat. I put in £184, and I feel if we are not recompensed then this amounts to stealing. **JD**

A In case anyone thinks their savings are not safe, I need to explain that your £184 went to

TONY HETHERINGTON
MONEY CLINIC



buy more shares in Bradford & Bingley. It was not a deposit in a savings account. As a shareholder, you were one of the owners of the bank. If it made profits, you got a dividend. If it went bust, your shares became worthless – and that is what happened. The only dispute is over whether shareholders were told the whole truth in 2008, before they invested in extra shares. The story was that the bank would remain solvent, but it collapsed weeks later, taking your money with it. Nobody has fully explained how this could happen, and we are unlikely to learn what went on unless there is a public inquiry. Perhaps you should try to enlist your MP's support for this.

Q I am writing for advice about a mailing we received from Vital Beauty. We began to fill in the reply coupon but had second thoughts. **JM**

A Vital Beauty is a mail order company operating from a PO box number in Hampshire. In fact, its real name is Agence de Marketing Applique, and it is based in Belgium. The mailing tells you repeatedly that you are the winner of a guaranteed cheque, and that if you return the correct document you will receive £46,372. But the truth is that this is just a lottery. Vital Beauty hopes you will return the order form and buy its goods, which is what you started to do before sending everything to me. There is one prize of £46,372, and there will be only one winner. The so-called "guaranteed cheque" that everyone else will receive is a voucher worth £1.50 off your next order from Vital Beauty! Save your money.

Q My new PAYE tax code includes the letter "K", but people I work with have codes with the letter "L". Can you explain this? **BJL**

A Codes with L are the simplest, for people with the basic tax allowance. Replace the letter with the figure 9 and you will get the amount of annual income you can have before tax. K codes are more complicated. They suggest you have other income, apart from your main job, or owe some arrears. K codes are individually calculated to collect more than the normal tax on your main earnings.

■ If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. We regret that neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.

Help with water bills could be on its way

Water bills could be cut for the most vulnerable households under new plans announced by the government.

A consultation published this week builds on the findings and recommendations of Anna Walker's independent review of charging for household water and sewerage services and further analysis by regulator Ofwat on options for tackling bills in the South-West, an area hit particularly hard by high water charges.

Environment secretary Caroline Spelman said: "We know that some households are really struggling with their water bills, particularly in the South-West, where people are paying the highest bills in the country. "Our plans will increase the help available for vulnerable households right across England, with special help for people in the South-West who, through no fault of their own, are battling astronomical water bills during a difficult economic climate."

Proposed reforms include enhancing Watersure, a scheme that helps vulnerable households who pay for their water via water meters, by capping their bills at the level of the average bill for their water companies.



GOING WITH THE FLOW: Water charges could be reduced for poorer households under new legislation due to be introduced.

Under the new plans, bills would be capped at the national average metered bill if this is lower than the company's average, with the cost met by the government. There will also be guidance to introduce social tariffs. This will provide extra help for those

struggling to pay their bills by providing guidance for water companies on the design of tariffs, including which households should benefit, what level of cross-subsidy between households is fair, and what concessions should be offered.

Ray of hope for our first-time buyers

The outlook for first-time house buyers remains gloomy, but there is potential for hope on the horizon, according to a new report from a leading UK mortgage provider.

The Road Blocks and Ways Forward report from HSBC seeks to explain why the number of first-time buyers has dropped from around 500,000 to 200,000 across 10 years – and what can be done to increase this figure amidst such difficult economic conditions.

Research has revealed that more than 80pc of non-homeowning adults aspire to be first-time buyers, but fewer than a quarter of these people expect to be able to purchase within the next five years.

Key reasons holding prospective buyers back are difficulties raising the required deposit, insufficient income to support the mortgage, concerns over unemployment and concern over future falling house prices.

By ED FOSS
MyMoney24 writer

But the last of these was put forward by only 12pc of people – lower than some commentators would have predicted.

The current average first-time buyer house price of £136,842 is 6.6 times a young single person's average earnings of £20,654.

With lenders across the industry typically reluctant to lend more than four times income, this leaves an "affordability gap" of 2.6 times income, equivalent to £53,700.

In order to afford a 90pc loan-to-value mortgage – the maximum a standard lender will currently allow – a typical first-time buyer's home earnings would have to be £30,800.

Stuart Beattie, HSBC's head of mortgages, said: "Our study proves that the aspiration to be a homeowner continues to be exceptionally strong.

"More than 80pc of young non-homeowners are aspiring to buy homes but are being prevented from doing so due to a lack of affordable homes. The key to helping buyers back into the market is to help them obtain the cash deposit that responsible lenders require before granting a mortgage."

"To this end, both government and private sector interested parties need to come up with innovative schemes to help aspiring first-time buyers."

Ways forward could include expansion of government-supported shared equity schemes, changes to stamp duty to put the onus more on last-time sellers, and more help to bring empty houses into the market.

The HSBC report also said a return to more 95pc loan-to-value mortgages could be made possible by additional safeguards for lenders and borrowers, such as types of specialist insurance.

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

WITH Prince William and Kate Middleton's wedding day fast approaching, firms are being advised to make their work policy clear.

The big day has already been made a public holiday but the South East Society of Chartered Accountants has raised fears that employees planning to make the most of the day off could clash with bosses expecting them to work as normal. More inside.



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KEY PARTNERS



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Struggling Kent duo fall by the wayside

By **SIMON ROBINSON**

simon.robinson@kosmedia.co.uk

TWO Kent firms have become the latest businesses to buckle as a result of the recession.

Refrigeration giant Blighline Ltd entered into administration after amassing debts of about £6 million, while commercial printer Thanet Press ceased trading and made all staff redundant.

Blighline's management team said they were left with no alternative having been badly hit by "deteriorating trading conditions and severe liquidity problems". Deloitte administrators were appointed on March 23.

Partner Carlton Siddle said: "We will continue to trade the business while seeking a sale as a going concern. The administration team will work closely with management, customers and suppliers during this time to ensure operations continue as normal."

Blighline bosses attempted to restructure the Canterbury-based business in 2010, taking the number of employees down from 200 to 120.

Their principal customer, Tesco, was said to have been "fully supportive" of the money-saving efforts.

However, the firm, based at Lakesview Business Park, Westbere, was ultimately unable to stave off administration. The company built up a £25m annual turnover through sales of refrigeration and display equipment to supermarkets and the catering industry.

Thanet Press had its accounts frozen last month by Barclays after HMRC served the company with a winding-up petition. Insolvency firm CCW Recovery Solutions LLP has been appointed to the business.

A Thanet Press statement read: "It is with regret that the directors of Thanet Press Limited announce that the business has ceased to trade with immediate effect and that the employees have had their employment terminated.

"This action has been forced upon the compa-



END OF THE ROAD: Blighline and Thanet Press have both buckled as the economy struggles

ny due to a reduction in sales arising from intense competition in the UK Print sector leading in turn to cashflow difficulties. The company's bankers, Barclays, froze all bank accounts last week following their review of the business's future. As a result, Thanet Press was unable to pay suppliers or staff

and the directors were left with no option other than to cease to trade and appoint insolvency practitioners

CCW Recovery Solutions LLP to advise them. There is nothing further the directors can add at this time, save to express their regret at being forced to take such action and to thank all staff, customers and suppliers for their commitment and support over the years."

A Barclays spokesman said: "The Barclays Business Support team, which helps customers

facing financial difficulty, has been supporting Thanet Press since early 2009.

"During that time we have worked closely with the business to support them through their difficulties and were in active discussion with the directors to find a way through the current problems. However, once the winding up petition was filed by HMRC we were obliged to freeze the company's accounts.

"We have worked hard to help the company survive and are committed to lending to viable businesses. It is our obligation to lend responsibly to businesses and provide support that helps them grow and thrive."

CCW partner Mark Newman will chair a meeting at the Holiday Inn Express, Manston, on Tuesday, April 12, at which the company is likely to be placed into creditors' voluntary liquidation. The company is due to face the winding-up petition the following day.



Micro-firms welcome red tape freeze

A THREE-year freeze on new UK regulation for micro-firms has begun.

The Government's moratorium on all new legislation affecting small companies came into effect on April 6.

The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) welcomed the move but called on Government to push for similar changes from the European Union.

An FSB spokesman said 72 per cent of the total cost of UK regulation now originates from Brussels and that there have

been more than 100,000 pages of new EU regulations since 1997.

FSB Kent and Medway chairman Roger House said: "The FSB has welcomed the Government's commitment to help ease the burden of regulation on these businesses, but we are concerned that regulations coming from Europe will hit small firms harder and as a result they will feel the impact of these much more.

"If the burden of unnecessary regulation is lifted from small businesses, they would

be free to get on with creating wealth, jobs and growth. It is worth remembering that if only 50 per cent of the EU's small businesses employed just one extra person there would be an additional 10 million jobs.

"Micro-firms will be in a much better position to plan for their future, grow, innovate and take on new staff, without the worry of constant changes to the law, yet it is disappointing that some of the most burdensome aspects of employment regulation are not included."



ROGER HOUSE

Comment

THE Government's favourite post-recession buzzword is growth and, more to the point, how to stimulate it. The economy has been left in ruins, crushed in part by rising inflation, and companies up and down the country have struggled to make ends meet.

Two established and formerly profitable Kent firms – Blighline and Thanet Press – have gone out of business in recent weeks and many more will go the same way if they cannot rebalance the books soon.

The Government hopes its Regional Growth Fund will give the economy the shot in the arm it needs to get back on track.

Businesses, particularly start-ups, have been invited to apply for a share of the £1.4 billion funding pot.

Critics have argued that the fund is not large enough to reinvigorate the market and the fact that the first round of bidding attracted 450 bids, totalling more than £2 billion, seems to support their argument.

Prime Minister David Cameron has also launched his StartUp Britain campaign, which he hopes will give would-be entrepreneurs the backing, financial or otherwise, to go into business.

Students have also been targeted, with a new Entrepreneur First scheme seeing business-minded undergraduates given support and guidance with help from leading employers.

It will also pay for the creation of enterprise societies in every university in the country.

Chancellor George Osborne's second Budget was also full of growth-minded initiatives.

The 21 new enterprise zones, featuring relaxed planning laws and discounted business rates, corporation tax cut and additional apprenticeship funding, are all intended to give businesses a much-needed boost.

The question now is whether the Government has done enough to secure the growth it is desperate to achieve.

Businesses are still struggling to make ends meet and will continue to do so until customers' disposable incomes, shrunk by galloping inflation, begin to recover.

Bringing inflation under control is clearly key to the Government's growth goals and should be addressed as a matter of urgency.

SIMON ROBINSON, Business Editor
Twitter: @KOSbusiness



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Still going strong after 80 years



LONG HAUL: Chalkwell has built up a 50-strong fleet since Harry Eglington started in 1931 with one coach, below

CHALKWELL Coach Hire and Tours has celebrated its 80th anniversary. The Sittingbourne-based business reached the milestone on April 1.

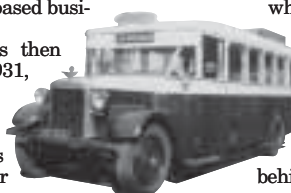
Harry Eglington founded what was then known as Island Luxury Coaches in 1931, with just a solitary coach to his name.

His son Clive, who has taken over at the firm, which now boasts a 50-strong coach and bus fleet, said: "It is with great pride that we celebrate our 80th anniversary."

"When my father started his business in Sheerness on April 1, 1931, with one 26-seat coach operating an express

service to east London, where he grew up, he had no idea what the business would develop into. In those 80 years we have developed services such as tours, daybreaks, schools and local bus, and London commuter operations.

"That said, we have remained true to his philosophy and remain a Swale-based, people-driven business with a dedicated staff of drivers, engineers and those who work behind the scenes in our offices. The growth and success we have achieved is thanks to the dedication so many have brought to Chalkwell over the years and the kind support of our customers."



Making policy clear before the big day



ROYAL WEDDING: But not everyone will be able to enjoy the public holiday to celebrate Will's and Kate's nuptials

BUSINESSES are being urged to make their Royal Wedding policy clear to employees ahead of the big day, *writes Simon Robinson.*

The Government has made Friday, April 29, a public holiday, giving workers across the country the chance to celebrate Prince William and Kate Middleton's marriage.

However, workers in frontline professions, such as nurses, have been told they must work on the day but will not receive any extra pay.

Others have been told they must apply for annual leave. The South East Society of Chartered Accountants (Sesca) is advising firms to make their policy clear to avoid problems.

Sesca president Malcolm Kimber said: "While millions are looking forward to the Royal Wedding, a row over arrangements for staff that have to work on the day is brewing."

"Communication is the key here. If staff are made aware of what the policy is, it can make for a splendid historic occasion for everyone."

"Companies have had a tough time lately and this includes staff, many of whom have seen hours cut and wages reduced."

"Businesses can use this opportunity to show they care about their staff and ensure everyone is paid what they are entitled to and allow them to partake in the royal celebrations if they wish to."

THE University of Kent has joined forces with Kent Connects under a new scheme to give business students a taste of working in the public sector. The link will see the university's Kent Business School's MBA postgraduates take up posts at a range of local authority organisations.

Under the Kent Connects MBA Cohort Programme, councils and other local authority agencies will benefit from the students' business expertise, while the students will gain public sector experience. Kent Business School MBA director Rajendra Shirole said: "This is a superb opportunity for students to engage with project challenges and deliver solutions local authority agencies."

"This relationship with Kent Connects and Kent County Council is undertaken as part of the MBA programme which enables students to work with local and national organisations on key projects."

"These provide real and relevant insight into how the sec-

tor is affected by economic challenges and changes.

"The projects also provide a collaborative approach for students to grow business connections, gain a deeper understanding of the challenges public sector organisation face, as well as sharpen their leadership skills."

"The projects are scattered throughout the region and will provide a range of exciting challenges for students."

Kent Connects head Carol Patrick said: "This is an innovative and exciting project enabling us to forge closer links with Kent Business School and its students."

"It is providing students with the opportunity to work on real topics and get a better understanding of the issues affecting local government. For the partners, the project provides an injection of critical thinking and enables a new perspective to be brought to difficult problems."

"We hope that the MBA Cohort will be the beginning of a long-term relationship between Kent Connects and Kent Business School."

■ AN AIRPORT business initiative has taken off at Biggin Hill. The LOCATE project aims to bring a diverse group of interested parties together in a collective bid to further develop business potential at the airport.

An airport spokesman said: "LOCATE is the name for a new business initiative that has been developed in conjunction with all landowners around the airport, aerospace partner companies based at the airport, the relevant local authorities of surrounding districts and Bromley council officers."

"The overall objective is to deliver on development potential at the airport for businesses, harness dynamism to enhance skills and competitiveness and engage with the heritage alongside a cluster of businesses at the airport."

A thousand people are employed at and around Biggin Hill, making the airport one of the largest employment centres in Bromley. More than £20 million of capital investment has been carried out at the airport since 2005 – and more jobs and investment are to come.

■ A SOCIAL enterprise catering company enjoyed a high-profile launch event – serving more than 1,000 diners at the O2.

The People's Food Company, set up by Whistable husband-and-wife team Tom and Angela Bonner, secured the catering contract for the Voice 11 social enterprise event.

The firm offers positions to those who may have experienced difficulty in finding work and reinvests profits into sustaining and furthering its mission for positive change.

Employees handed out snacks and refreshments to guests including Labour leader Ed Miliband and business secretary Vince Cable.

Mrs Bonner said: "It was inspiring and thoroughly enjoyable. It's so amazing to be able to go to such a huge event and give people a drink and a snack with a smile and make such a difference. We had the best time."

"The feedback we received was just so positive we can't wait to start planning for our next event. We have so many great ideas we want to try out and are just raring to go."

■ ONESAVINGS Bank Plc has opened its new-style blueprint agency in Strood. The Tolgate Lane agency, branded krbs, replaces the former Strood High Street branch.

OneSavings' chief operating officer Tim Sawyer said: "The new Strood agency represents a blueprint for all krbs agencies. Its design is a little different from what we traditionally had and is very much in keeping with our new-look business model."

The new agency can be found at Unit 2 of the Michael Gill Building.

■ A STUDENTS' Union has been named as one of the country's top 20 best public sector places to work. Kent Union, at the University of Kent, was ranked 19th in the Sunday Times top 100 list.

Just under 250 organisations competed for a place on the list and the views of 49,000 employees were canvassed.

Entrants were listed depending on their commitment to best practice and workplace engagement across eight categories.

Kent Union scored particularly highly in the My Company and My Manager sections.

A Kent Union spokesman said: "This is the third year that we have featured in the Sunday Times list and each year has seen us edge nearer to the top."

Pickles' chamber step given mixed reception

THE Government's local enterprise partnerships will be led by the British Chambers of Commerce, it has been revealed, **writes Simon Robinson.**

The new partnerships (LEPs), which will replace Labour's regional development agencies, have been set up to enable business and civic leaders to respond to their area's specific economic needs.

It is hoped the unique LEPs – including the combined Kent, East Sussex and Essex partnership – will drive forward growth and job creation across the country.

After announcing that the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) will lead the roll-out of the partnerships, local government secretary Eric Pickles said: "The BCC came forward with a very strong proposal and with its network across the country it is well placed to anchor business at the centre of new local enterprise."

Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce chief executive Jo James welcomed the decision, saying: "This is a very positive step forward in the LEP process as it will ensure business is at the heart of the agenda. Kent Invicta welcomes the opportunity to work alongside the BCC to the benefit of Kent businesses."

However, some business organisations have raised concerns that awarding one organisation sole responsibility for the LEPs will result in wider business interests not being taken into account.

The Federation of Small Businesses Kent and Medway chairman Roger House said: "We are entirely supportive of the concept of a group which brings together LEPs."

"However, there is more than one business organisation on the ground, each representing different business sectors and with members working hard to make the LEPs a success by dedicating their time to develop them from grassroots level – something the Government wanted."

"For LEPs to be truly effective they need to

represent those diverse business interests. Simply picking a single business organisation to run it in this way, with no consultation with the rest of the business community, risks isolating both those businesses which are not a member of any body and those which are members of the groups that haven't been included."

Miles Templeman, the Institute of Directors' director general, said: "We are surprised and disappointed the Government has appointed the BCC to head this £300,000 quango with no consultation or discussion with other business groups."

"We question seriously the need to spend £300,000 of taxpayers' money on a body whose

purpose is to lobby national government on behalf of LEPs. No case has been made to us for this arrangement."

Forum of Private Business chief executive Phil Orford said: "Many of our members still don't understand what Local Enterprise Partnerships will do to support economic and employment growth at a local level."

"To now discover that Government has been holding unilateral discussions with one business organisation to provide a national networking and co-ordination body for LEPs, without competitive tender is, frankly, surprising and disappointing and will raise questions about the localism agenda and public procurement policy."



ROLL-OUT: Government minister Eric Pickles has chosen the BCC to lead local enterprise partnerships

Growing into the role

EAST Malling Research has announced the appointment of Professor Peter Gregory as its new chief executive.

Gregory, who serves in the same position of the Scottish Crop Research Institute, will take up his new position from May 1. The academic, whose specialist interests include aspects of food systems and food security, with a particular emphasis on environmental change, succeeds Dr Mike Solomon, who is retiring for the second time from EMR, having first retired as science director in 2006.

Prof Gregory said: "I am delighted to be joining as chief executive at a time when fruit and food are back in the public eye. EMR's outstanding research is a key element of the UK's future food and farming excellence."

Delighted

"My role at the University of Reading will allow me to project EMR's work internationally and bring a new generation of students into contact with the practicalities and challenges of producing and marketing high quality horticultural foods."

EMR chairman Oliver Doubleday said: "We are delighted to welcome Peter Gregory. Following a distinguished academic career, Peter will be able to build on the great progress made by Mike Solomon over the past two years."

"I am confident Peter is the



TOP MAN: Prof Peter Gregory

person to guide EMR's exciting and continuing development as one of the UK's main horticulture R&D providers and extend EMR's remit."

Commenting on the legacy of Mike Solomon, Will Sibley, chairman of East Malling Trust, said: "EMR and the trust owe Mike an enormous debt of gratitude for not only his recent commitment as chief executive since May, 2009, but also the nearly 40 years he has spent at the research station. His work has strengthened its financial base and he has forged stronger relationships with other academic and research institutions."

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Tourism cuts concern

VISIT Kent has written to tourism minister John Penrose to raise concerns over the impact local authority budget cuts could have on the industry.

The county's tourism champion fears some of the 'glue' that enables destination management organisations to create successful partnerships could be eroded in current budget reviews.

Chief executive Sandra Matthews-Marsh said: "Local authorities have a key role to play in underpinning the process of bringing various interests together.

"They help create a platform on which destination businesses can stand together, collaborate and interact in the task of delivering a rounded project to visitors.

"We call this a 'sticky' destination, where each part of the visitor's journey plays its part to support the next and where the visitor is encouraged to stay longer because of the myriad of elements to retain their interest and spending.

"It also works to support economies of scale in marketing, such as creating a joined-up presence at exhibitions and trade events."

Matthews-Marsh and Visit Kent investors met with the tourism minister in Dover last month.

While generally welcoming the Government's national tourism policy, Matthews-Marsh called for more to be done to enhance the UK's pulling power.

She said: "We are delighted that, for the first time, the tourism industry has been recognised by the Government as a sector in its own right and as a key driver for rebuilding the economy during the recovery.



GUEST: John Penrose MP with Visit Kent chairwoman Amanda Cottrell during his Dover trip

ery. These are challenging times and we need to deliver radical programmes and put in place the foundations that will enable them to succeed. To stimulate growth, we are backing calls from the Tourism Alliance for all historic properties with significant and covenanted benefit to the public to be eligible for lottery grants; we would like the Real Estate Investment Trust eligibility to include commercial visitor accommodation; and we want hotel building allowances brought back.

"Furthermore, we are calling on the Government to consider creating a level playing field across Europe for our industry. The UK is only one of three of the 27 EU member states which does not apply a reduced-rate of VAT to tourism services.

"A cut in VAT for our sector would make us far more competitive and could see UK tourism earnings increase by seven per cent."



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Inspired rise

KOSmedia BUSINESS WEEK

THE BIG INTERVIEW

I.T. hardware specialist Inspired Technology Services has enjoyed a stellar rise in its short history. The firm went from making a £20,000 loss in 2003 to a £6 million turnover in 2010 after increasing its number of clients from 20 to 450 during the same period.

The Whitstable-based computer company's change in fortune has been spearheaded by director ELLAINE MARJOLIN.

She spoke to Business Week editor Simon Robinson about how she helped the business blossom, despite being armed with just a telephone and a list of contact details.



Ellaine Marjolin

MOST of the narcissistic yet incompetent hopefuls on BBC One's *The Apprentice* will at some point utter the cringeworthy cliché: "I'm a natural-born seller" during their quest to join Lord Alan Sugar's empire.

They usually follow it up with something akin to "I could sell snow to the Eskimos" before spectacularly – and often laughably – failing to deliver on their brash boasts.

This is because selling is a difficult skill to master; consisting of a delicate combination of trust, persuasion, guile and guts.

The majority of would-be Apprentices find the job of parting the customer from their hard-earned cash one of the toughest tasks of the series, and the ones who fail to seal any deals are often quickly given the boot in the boardroom by Lord Sugar.

So it's no wonder the TV executives behind the show have shied away from a cold-calling telephone challenge – for my money one of the most difficult jobs going.

One person who would be unfazed by such a task is Ellaine Marjolin, director at Inspired Technology Services.

THE 29-year-old has taken the Whitstable-based IT hardware firm from a position of losing £20,000 a year in 2003 to a turnover of £6 million last year.

And this was done initially with just a computer, telephone and a database of numbers at her disposal.

"I joined the company in 2003 and was just told to make it work," she said.

"At the time it was me and one other guy working in a horrible little office. All I had was a computer, telephone and a database of public sector bodies and councils, but I got on the phone and opened a few accounts."

The mother-of-two stumbled upon her natural sales skills, having entered the IT selling business after completing a criminology degree at Portsmouth University. Having risen through the ranks of the firm during the past eight years, elevated by ever-increasing profits, Marjolin has fine-tuned her sales technique.

"A good salesman has to have quite an inspiring personality," she said.

"You have to get people excited to talk to you and find a connection with the person you are talking to. You have to show a genuine interest in them as a person.

"It's also important to know your stuff, let the customers know that you understand their situation and give them confidence. If people feel confident in you, then they will buy from you.

"With regard to maintaining sales, you have to be honest. Don't over-promise and under-deliver, that's the worst thing you could do. The moment you do that the account is closed.

"If you say they're going to get it by Friday and you don't deliver until the following Wednesday, you are never going to get business from them again.

"However, if you say, 'We've got an issue and are not going to be able to get to you before Wednesday but

ELLAINE MARJOLIN: CV

- Degree in Criminal Law & Criminology, 2001
- HaHa Bar and Canteen Restaurant Manager 2000-2002
- Inspired Technology Services, director, 2003-present
- Active Life – fitness instructor, 2009-present

don't want to let you down', then often people will appreciate your honesty and stay with you."

Under Marjolin's guidance, the company has expanded its number of clients from 20 to 450.

Although working predominantly in London and the South East, Inspired also works with customers as far away as Aberdeen and Plymouth.

While clearly proud of her achievements, the director is keen to emphasise the hard work and commitment needed to stay ahead of the competition.

Speaking at the company's John Wilson Business Park base, Marjolin said: "We have hundreds of rivals, everything from giant one-stop shop organisations to little one-man bands. Competition is fierce, but we've got a very good reputation within the industry and where we've provided a service and people are happy they generally come back to us.

"But we have to be constantly cold-calling for new business because accounts dry up. It's about getting new customers all the time."

MARJOLIN comes across as a do-er; the type to get things done rather than stand back and procrastinate. She speaks without the gift-of-the-gab confidence often stereotypically associated with salesmen, but what she lacks in clichés and wafer-thin charm she more than makes up for in determination and enthusiasm.

"I'm very into my work," she said. "It's my passion.

"I'm very hands-on. I totally believe in being out there on the frontline with all the other salesmen. I think that's why we work quite well together as a team.

"We've done so well because we're all in it together for the benefit of everyone. We're like a family. It's that sort of mentality – all focused on achieving the goals we've set.

"I couldn't have achieved what I have without the team around me. We have fabulous sales and purchasing teams and great warehouse and in-house logistic staff, who all deliver an outstanding service."

Marjolin is clearly proud of her achievements at Inspired and feels businesses should employ more women in the top positions.

She said: "I think women have so much to offer.

Women are just as driven as men, have the same skills and can also offer a new way of looking at problems and scenarios.

"Sadly, I think there are a lot of talented women out there who are held back because of their bosses feel that they are going to be a mother sooner or later so they just employ a man instead.



of the ultimate IT girl

SEAL THE DEAL: Ellaine Marjolin and colleagues at Inspired Technology Services' Whitstable office



ELLAINÉ'S TOP TIPS

- Know your product
- Know your industry/competitors
- Remain focused and motivated
- Stay ahead of the competition
- Never over-promise and under-deliver
- Be honest and care about your clients' needs



"Luckily, I have a good working relationship with everyone here. I think having taken the company from a position of losing £20,000 a year to where we are now has made people take me seriously."

"But I think the number of women directors a company has should be based entirely on merit – you can't put any woman on the board just for the sake of it."

"If the right woman, who is willing to put the work in, graft and offer valuable opinions is available though it is only right that she is given a top job."

"The 25 per cent target for women on boards at the top FTSE 100 firms is a good figure, but I feel it should be a minimum."

Marjolin, mother to Alexia and Zeus, said she had worked hard to find the right balance between work and home life.

"My family is very important to me," she said.

"People say to me, 'how do you do it, how come you're not tired, how come you're so happy?' But I'm working for my kids, to provide for them so they can have whatever they need to be successful."

"My kids are happy. Of course, I would like to spend more time with them. It's hard to get that balance. I think I've got it right. I'm quite lucky because I've got a lot of family support."

Coming back to her job, I ask the dedicated director how tech-mad she is.

"While I'm interested in the application of IT, the latest gadgets are not something that particularly interest me," she revealed.

"I know everything about it and have to find out all about the latest technology, but I'm not that into computers and games consoles. I think it's all a bit excessive, but if people are going to buy it then I am going to sell it to them."



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WINNERS: The SW Doughty team with Richard Benyon MP and Clarissa Dickson Wright

They're a cut above your average village butcher

FAMILY firm SW Doughty has been named the Best Butcher in Britain at the Countryside Alliance awards.

The Doddington-based business took top prize at the nationwide finals, held in London March 30.

Countryside Alliance chief executive Alice Barnard said: "I could not be happier for the Doughty family. This charming business has been trading in Doddington for over 150 years and the family has owned and run the shop and abattoir on its present site since 1919.

"Three family members and three local butchers bring over 100 years of experience to the business. Animals are processed in the small Georgian abattoir one at a time, the pigs are still

scalded in a tub and scoured by hand and all the carcasses are carefully dressed by hand and hung for a minimum of two weeks before they are cut to sell.

"The farming community values the abattoir service which those in the industry know is an increasingly rare yet important factor for animal welfare and quality. Doughtys go the distance for their local farmers, who they value and support to the hilt.

"The shop also plays a central role in its community. The character, friendliness and warmth of the team make Doughtys a special place.

"Traditional quality, customer service and the benefit of huge skill and experience in butchery makes Doughtys the out and out winner."

Shifting gear and location with modern one-stop base



TC MOTORHOMES has shifted up a gear after investing more than £2 million in its new Herne Bay base.

The firm, which has traded in Kent for 22 years, made the move earlier this year after outgrowing the Broadstairs site.

The new two-acre motorhome and caravan centre boasts a display area fit for 30 new and 70 second-hand vehicles, sales and service centre and MoT workshop.

Owner Tony Chamberlain said: "We took on this site at Hillborough as it was a fantastic opportunity for us to vastly improve our facilities and offer our customer base the one-stop shop for all their motorhome and caravaning requirements.

"We feel we have the best motorhome and caravan sales and service centre in Kent.

"I am always looking to keep our standard high and to achieve this it's important to keep staff well trained, with the latest infor-

By **SIMON ROBINSON**

simon.robinson@kosmedia.co.uk

mation and equipment to do the job.

"It's not cheap to purchase a motorhome or caravan, so it's wise to buy from a firmly committed company like us that has the technical ability and financial resources to maintain a consistent facility for years to come."

The company's service department head, Neal Kinsley, said the new on-site workshop enabled them to further support customers.

"It's important to have your motorhome or caravan serviced on an annual basis to make certain all the systems are in good working order. This enables you to get the maximum enjoyment from your investment.

"We are in the process of qualifying to be a approved habitation workshop.

"This is operated and governed by the national caravan council and ensures the quality of our workmanship is first class."

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Attracting investment can be make or break



PHIL BEAVAN: Innovation and Growth

SECURING equity investment is often seen as a holy grail among business owners, but the make-or-break world portrayed by Dragons' Den is closer than you may think, *writes Phil Beavan*, portfolio director with the Innovation and Growth team.

People seeking finance to grow and expand their businesses are essentially faced with two choices: using their own money or arranging some form of finance – either debt or equity.

But with many businesses continuing to report difficulties in obtaining support from their banks, is equity finance a realistic option for the region's businesses?

Kent boasts some active, structured and keen equity investors, people who are backing businesses now and always looking for new opportunities.

We are certainly always interested in talking to businesses who feel that equity backing is right for their business.

So what does it take to attract a potential investor and what are they looking for?

One thing that you most certainly do not need is a revolutionary new product or idea.

In fact, if it is a completely new concept or invention then the likelihood is the value of the business will be surprisingly low, unless you have sales going through.

A good understanding of your market is key as well as knowing how, and why, you'll attack it, and the abilities of the management team can never be underestimated.

A great management team will make a success of the most mediocre idea, whereas a poor management team will mess up even the best concept. The product or service is neither as interesting or as important as you think. If you are planning on speaking to potential investors, then you need to prepare a short but concise business plan, no more than seven pages. It needs to cover:

- What is the market opportunity?
 - Who are your competitors?
 - Costs, selling point.
 - Promotion and distribution.
 - Risks and threats.
 - Management team.
 - How much do you want?
 - How will the investor get their money back?
- As for the investors themselves, they are ready and waiting.

We have been approached by a number of business angels in the last few weeks who are actively looking for opportunities as they are in a position to invest now.



REFRESHED: Ramada Hotel at Whitfield

Ramada turning over a new Leaf with makeover

RAMADA Hotel in Dover is undergoing a makeover after a £500,000 investment.

The on-going improvements include a new restaurant, bar and lobby, together with the installation of flat-screen TVs and a new guest information system in all 68 bedrooms.

General manager Gehan Dias-Bandaranaikie said: "This refurbishment will enhance our reputation as one of the only prestigious branded four-star hotels in east Kent and will enable the Ramada Hotel Dover to continue serving local, corporate and leisure clients alike by offering competitive prices, excellent service and a warm welcome."

The hotel, just off the A2 at Whitfield, is owned by Leaf Hotels, which also runs the recently renovated Best Western Dover Marina Hotel & Spa on the seafront.

Heseltine will oversee growth fund bidding



BIDS: Lord Heseltine

THE second round of bidding for the Government's much-criticised Regional Growth Fund will begin on Tuesday.

Businesses can submit applications for a slice of the £1.4 billion pot, which is then allocated by a team headed by Lord Heseltine, pictured above.

The first £250 million RDF phase, which closed in January, attracted 450 bids totalling more than £2bn.

Lord Heseltine said the fund was

aimed at pumping money into start-up businesses, particularly in areas that have traditionally been reliant on the public sector to create jobs.

Opponents to the plan have raised concerns that the £1.4bn available is not large enough.

Labour has hit out at the fund, saying it is a poor replacement for their regional development agencies, which have been scrapped.








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NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight will focus on Legal matters

Picture: NICK DUNGAN



AVAILABLE: Jack Gibbons is fit for Saturday

Town on time to sign Wings shot stopper

SEVENOAKS Town have made a final addition to their squad after beating the transfer deadline to sign former Welling United goalkeeper Matt Bennett.

Keith Levett, the Town manager, has drafted in Bennett as cover for regular stopper Dan Bygrave, who will be unavailable for two games at the end of April.

He said: "I'd forgotten Dan was going away, but he reminded me just before the transfer deadline. Matt's been training with Sutton United as their back-up goalkeeper and I've asked him to do me a favour.

"Dan's been very good for us and we've been lucky with him because he's kept improving, game on game. He's away for two games, though, so we had to do something there."

Sevenoaks play for the first time in a fortnight when Erith & Belvedere visit Greatness Park on Saturday. With no game last weekend, Levett was afforded the luxury of giving several injured players a much-needed rest and he is hoping the time off will prove beneficial.

Jack Gibbons and Jack Jeffreys are both in contention to feature against the Deres, but player-coach Rob Quinn is suspended and Leon Farrell is a slight injury doubt.

Levett admitted it was difficult to assess Saturday's opponents, who slumped to a 2-0 defeat at Tunbridge Wells before going on to thrash Norton Sports 7-0 on Sunday.

"They looked like a side going through the motions at Tunbridge Wells," he said. "I think they're a team who aren't playing for much this year, but they'll have targets and they'll want to finish as strongly as they can.

"I know their manager and they'll be gunning for us because we won at their place [2-1 in August]. If we can get the win that would be three on the spin, and we've not done that this season."

Park signing more than a glamour boy

Ex-Sussex batsman Thornley in to replace run machine Kale

By STEVE TERVET

LINDEN Park skipper John Harvey insists former Sussex batsman Michael Thornley will be more than a "glamour boy" after signing for the Tunbridge Wells club ahead of the new cricket season.

Thornley, 23, was released by Sussex at the end of the 2010 campaign and he arrives at Linden Park as a direct replacement for outgoing overseas player Abhijit Kale.

However, Thornley's services will be spread three ways throughout the summer as he will represent the Unicorns in the Clydesdale Bank 40 competition as well as playing 2nd XI cricket for Somerset.

Harvey is hoping to lead Linden Park to promotion from Division Three of the Kent League this season, and admitted Thornley had looked elsewhere before deciding to put pen to paper.

"He was let go [by Sussex] and then he was desperately trying to get a first-class contract," he said. "He really wanted to get a gig with a Premier League side, to put himself in the shop window, but counties are aware of his availability.

"Michael's not just come to the club to be a glamour boy, he'll be coaching and developing the junior section. It's all part of his contract;

we're not just taking him on for what he can do on a Saturday afternoon.

"He'll play for Somerset in the week, he'll play for us on Saturdays and the Unicorns on Sundays. It does mean, some weeks, he'll be in Tunbridge Wells at 8pm on a Saturday needing to be at the other end of the country for a 1pm start the next day, but that's what being a professional is all about."

Thornley will do well to emulate the achievements of Kale, who hit 2,733 runs in just three seasons at the club, averaging 78.09. The former India player made headlines by blasting 39 off one over for

Linden Park in 2009, but Harvey felt the 37-year-old's time at the club had reached its natural conclusion.

He said: "Abhijit was a real asset to the club on and off the field, but a lot of the lads thought they could step back and let Abhijit win games for us, which he often did. Going with Michael, it might shake up a few of the lads who were sitting and watching.

"I needed a big name to follow Abhijit, and they don't come much bigger than Michael in club cricket. I think he's the best batsman in the league, including the Premier League, and that's the second successive professional I've been able to say that about. It's about whether the rest of us can get in there as well."

Thornley played 17 first-class games for Sussex, scoring 522 runs at an average of 18.64. His first competitive outing of 2011 is

Picture: IGOR KUPCO



REPLACEMENT: Michael Thornley is to take over from Abhijit Kale (left) at Linden Park

likely to be at Old Trafford on April 24 when the Unicorns visit Lancashire, before Linden Park start their season at Addington Village on May 7.

Barham putts in a good effort on return to action

AN IMPORTANT psychological hurdle was cleared by Benn Barham last weekend as he made a successful return to the European Challenge Tour.

It was the 35-year-old's first tour event since last October, spending the interim period recovering from surgery to remove one of his kidneys, which contained a cancerous tumour.

Barham hit the ground running at the Kenya Open, making an eagle at the 10th hole en route to a two-under-par opening round of 69 to become one of the frontrunners.

A two-over-par 73 in round two saw the Tenterden golfer comfortably make the cut, before back-to-back rounds of 74 at the weekend saw him finish in a tie for 63rd place at the Muthaiga Golf Club, near Nairobi.

While Barham was a little frustrated not to finish higher up the standings, overall he was pleased to be playing after such a long time away from competitive golf.

"To play four rounds was a good achievement," he said. "I haven't played a massive amount of golf, but the fact I was playing some good stuff was encouraging.

"I played well and didn't feel particularly tired. When I wasn't at the golf club I got a lot of rest, which is important. I was keen to put myself through it rather than be too protective, so I tried to play as much as possible.

"I was very apprehensive before I played. It's one thing playing well with your friends, but when the gun goes off in a tournament it's totally different. Under that sort of pressure your weaknesses get highlighted and you learn a lot more in that sort of environment than you would on the driving range."

Barham will spend the rest of the month working on improving his game. His next appearance on the Challenge Tour will be at the Allianz Challenge de France, held at Disneyland Paris, which begins on May 5.



GOOD SIGNS: Benn Barham was pleased with his return to competitive golf after cancer op

Jackson shines as team-mate falters

By **STEVE TERVET**

BRANDS Hatch provided the backdrop for a mixed weekend at Motorbase Performance as the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) kicked off in dramatic fashion.

The Wrotham-based team, competing as Airwaves Racing in the BTCC, celebrated as Mat Jackson swept to two podium finishes across the three races to leave himself second in the championship.

However, Liam Griffin struggled on his debut, having stepped up from the Porsche Carrera Cup GB, as he retired from the first race before twice crossing the line 18th.

The decision to switch from BMW 320s to Ford Focuses for the new campaign appeared to have little impact on Jackson's performance, though, as a series of brave overtaking manoeuvres paid off with a total haul of 30 points.

Motorbase principal, David Bartrum, said: "It was a very successful weekend. We're eight points behind Jason Plato in the championship in second place so we're quite pleased with that."

"Mat Jackson is exactly where we thought he'd be and we've had three very good results from him. If we bank points like that at every round, we have a good chance at the title. It's the first leg of a 10-round championship, we're in a very good position and it can only get better."

Jackson, who finished seventh in last season's BTCC, praised the work done behind the scenes at Airwaves, but admitted getting to grips with the Focus had not been easy.

"To go away with two podiums and a fourth is a fantastic result for everyone in the team," he said. "It's great to have a start like this, but there is a long way to go and it's been a tough time learning the new car. We've made some great changes, though, and the weekend has put us in a great position."

Elsewhere in the BTCC paddock, Pembury's Shaun Hollamby was left with plenty to ponder after Tom Onslow-Cole earned his AmD Milltek Racing team their best finish since entering the championship last season.



Driver storms to first podiums for Airwaves Racing as Touring season kicks off at Brands Hatch



MIXED RESULTS: Mat Jackson (main pic) stormed to two podium finishes, while team-mate Liam Griffin (above left) struggled on his debut and Tom Onslow-Cole (above right) gave AmD Milltek their best set of results since joining the series

Onslow-Cole, one of the shock pre-season signings, drove the VW Golf home 13th and 12th either side of a retirement and Hollamby said only technical issues had prevented him challenging even higher up the field.

He said: "Tom had a great debut for us and we were happy with the handling of the car."

"The only issue is our straight-line speed is not as high as we'd hoped. It

showed why Tom's been successful in touring cars because he kept ahead of a faster car for 15 or 20 laps."

"Off the circuit, Tom raises our profile. We had more TV coverage last weekend than we did last season and that's because we are a news story. We're in the entertainment business and we have to find new ways of making it interesting."

The championship resumes at Donington Park on April 16.

Crash spoils Hill's impressive start

A COSTLY smash could prevent Jake Hill racing again this season despite turning in a series of strong displays at the opening round of the Ginetta GT Supercup.

The Goudhurst racer, 17, drove for Optimum Motorsport at the championship's opening round at Brands Hatch last weekend, collecting a podium finish in race two.

In the third race, Hill looked set to challenge for top spot in the G50 class before being sent into a spin by Alastair James. His car was then slammed into by the unsighted Adam Morgan and he now faces a battle to raise the money to repair the car and fund himself through the second round of the championship at Donington Park.

Hill said: "Optimum have been brilliant, but I just don't know if we'll be able to get out again after the damage caused. I'm really pleased to have got on the podium in my first G50 meeting though."

Having driven the G50 car only once before, Hill was the fastest driver in practice and he then qualified third in class before a tangle with Jordan Skinner forced both drivers out of race one.

Starting from the back of the grid in the second race, a brave overtaking move at Paddock Hill Bend moved him up into third, where he stayed to chalk up a podium spot for the 13th consecutive race weekend.



PODIUM: Jake Hill claimed a podium spot but a crash in race three may prove costly



Touring car legend **TIM HARVEY** has teamed up with Archant KOS Media this season to bring you a weekly column as he looks to retain his Porsche Carrera Cup title. Harvey, who was brought up in Sevenoaks and schooled in Tonbridge, is in his second spell with Wrotham-based team Motorbase Performance. He describes his defence of the Carrera Cup crown as well as sharing his thoughts as an ITV commentator, on the British Touring Car Championship

'Plato showed his class in first BTCC meeting'

THE FIRST weekend of the new British Touring Car Championship was a good one for Jason Plato, who won two of the three races to go past Andy Rouse's record of 60 wins.

However, he'll have seen enough to know he's going to be up against it with the turbo-charged Hondas. Plato won most races and took most points, but with Matt Neal going off in the first race, the Hondas didn't maximise their opportunity.

Those sort of records do mean a lot to drivers when it's such a big milestone as that. Nobody thought 60 race wins would ever be beaten, but there are now 30 races per year and in Rouse's day there used to be 12. It's a lot easier to rack up wins in a good car, but that doesn't diminish Plato's achievement of winning that many races in different cars.

Mat Jackson came home fourth in the first race for Airwaves Racing and then went on to pick up two podium finishes. It's not because I'm a fellow Motorbase driver, but with my ITV pundit's hat on, I tipped Jackson for success this year. He's a brilliant driver and the team totally outperformed the factory Aon works team at Brands Hatch.

Meanwhile, I started the defence of my title in the Porsche Carrera Cup, where there's already been a fair bit of controversy surrounding the championship. The whole principal is fairness and equality, a one-make championship, but Porsche have made a big mistake this year with the new car regulations.

Originally, the car was going to be 10 kilograms lighter than last year, but they've actually made it 20k heavier and we've got a situation where there's not a single driver who can make the minimum weight for car and driver. The championship is now handicapped by driver weight. It's such a big error, but Porsche are not willing to admit it.

I did well to qualify fourth, bearing in mind the weight issue. The first race was very disappointing as I picked up a puncture and had to go into the pits. In the second race I got fourth, which became third when another driver was given a penalty for using too much of the circuit.

My team-mate, Michael Caine, finished sixth and seventh, but we're very equally matched drivers so it shows there's a lot of work to do on the car at Motorbase ahead of the next meeting at Donington on April 16-17.

Pictures: NICK DUNCAN



FINAL PUSH: Oaks' season ends Saturday

Adamson tells side to end on a winning note

SEVENOAKS sign off their season on Saturday with chairman Lee Adamson urging them to simply go out and express themselves against Old Dunstonians.

Having missed out on promotion to London 1 South, Oaks can finish no higher than fourth even if they can chalk up a third straight home win this weekend.

With the club's coaching staff already in talks over player retention and recruitment for next season, Adamson wants the home side to relish the experience of their last competitive outing before the long summer break.

He said: "The players should just go out and enjoy themselves because there's no pressure either way, nothing riding on the game. I think sometimes, with this league system, it's easy for the guys to forget they're amateur players doing this for fun. On Saturday, they can go out and enjoy the game and have a couple of beers with the opposition afterwards."

"We're drawing up lists of guys who are club members away at university. The plan for next season started to take shape as soon as we knew promotion wasn't going to happen. We've started formulating plans and talking to various people already."

Sevenoaks ran out 41-32 winners when they travelled to Dunstonians on the opening weekend of the season. Saturday's visitors are similarly winding down as they are already guaranteed to finish in seventh place.

Off the field, construction work is under way on the Knole Paddock clubhouse development project, with Adamson confident the building work will be completed well in advance of next season's first game.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE TABLES

RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1 Sutton United	37	22	9	6	68	30	+38	75
2 Bury Town	37	20	7	6	62	43	+19	70
3 Harrow Borough	37	20	5	12	71	46	+25	65
4 Canvey Island	37	18	10	9	63	45	+18	64
5 Lowestoft Town	37	16	15	6	56	28	+28	63
6 Tonbridge Angels	36	18	9	9	57	40	+17	63
7 Concord Rangers	37	18	8	11	63	52	+11	62
8 Billericay Town	37	18	8	11	52	41	+11	62
9 Kingstonsian	37	18	7	12	54	43	+11	61
10 Cray Wanderers	37	17	8	12	63	42	+21	59
11 AFC Hornchurch	37	16	11	10	47	41	+6	59
12 Wealdstone	37	14	9	14	54	50	+4	51
13 Carshalton Athletic	37	12	10	15	46	46	0	46
14 Tooting & Mitcham	37	12	9	16	56	73	-17	45
15 Hendon	36	12	8	16	58	70	-12	44
16 Margate	37	11	10	16	48	52	-4	43
17 Horsham	37	8	11	18	34	70	-36	35
18 Hastings United	37	8	10	19	43	57	-14	34
19 Aveyley	37	8	7	22	29	54	-25	31
20 Maidstone United	37	6	10	21	37	71	-34	28
21 Croydon Athletic (-3)	37	9	4	24	40	84	-44	28
22 Folkestone Invicta	37	5	12	20	33	56	-23	27

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

1 Hythe Town	24	18	3	3	66	24	42	57
2 Herne Bay	24	15	7	2	52	27	25	52
3 VCD Athletic	25	12	11	2	42	25	17	47
4 Greenhithe Borough	26	13	2	11	53	34	19	41
5 Erith Town	25	11	6	8	46	32	14	39
6 Tonbridge Wells	25	11	5	9	55	39	16	38
7 Beckenham Town	24	11	3	10	44	39	5	36
8 Sevenoaks Town	24	11	3	10	37	37	0	36
9 Norton Sports	24	8	7	9	37	51	-14	31
10 Erith & Belvedere	23	8	6	9	42	36	6	30
11 Corinthian	24	9	3	12	28	39	-11	30
12 Deal Town	25	8	4	13	34	46	-12	28
13 Lordswood	25	7	4	14	32	46	-14	25
14 Holmesdale	25	5	3	13	28	43	-15	22
15 Sporting Bengal	27	6	4	17	36	83	-47	22
16 Fisher	26	6	3	17	28	59	-31	21

SATURDAY'S FIXTURES

(All games kick-off at 3pm)

RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION: Tonbridge Angels v Tooting & Mitcham United
KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION: Lordswood v Tonbridge Wells; Sevenoaks Town v Erith & Belvedere

Down to the wire

Angels move came five minutes from falling through, says Henry

By STEVE TERVET

DEADLINE day signing Chris Henry has revealed his move to Tonbridge Angels was almost scuppered by "frustrated" board members at previous club Carshalton Athletic.

The winger's registration was finalised just five minutes before the transfer window closed for business at 5pm last Thursday, as Tonbridge manager Tommy Warrilow completed his fourth signing of a dramatic day.

Henry, 26, was one of several players to leave Carshalton following the departure of former Margate manager Mark Butler last month.

The Robins are now managed by Paul Dipre, who also owns the club and Henry said his decision to leave Carshalton and accept Warrilow's offer had not gone down well with some at Colston Avenue.

He said: "I was worried [it wouldn't go through in time] because I don't think Carshalton wanted to lose me and they were a bit surprised I was ready to move."



"It started off a bit rocky, it was other people on the board who were very frustrated with the situation, but the manager-owner was alright with it and it went smoothly in the end."

A pacy winger who can play on either flank, Henry's arrival at Longmead offers Tonbridge a fresh attacking option at a time when they most need one, having scored just seven goals in their last 10 games.

Henry joined Carshalton from Bedfont Town and he is now looking to reach a new career high by supplying the ammunition to fire Angels to promotion from the Ryman Premier Division.

"Looking at where the club wants to go, it's very good for me," he said. "Carshalton had a bad time in their season and it was good for me to go to Tonbridge because they're looking to get into Conference South and that's very appealing to me, so I decided to take a chance."

"I just got a phone call from Tommy, saying he was very interested in me, he liked my style of play and he wanted to work with me. I asked people about Tommy, and I've heard he's a good manager to work with."

While Henry was happy to take a chance by switching allegiances with only seven games remaining, Warrilow insisted there



Pictures: NICK DUNGAN

SWEET TALK: Chris Henry says Tommy Warrilow (left) persuaded him to join Angels

was no risk on his part, despite Henry arriving with a slight hamstring injury.

The player is keen to repay his new manager's faith and moved to reassure Angels fans he would be throwing himself into the play-off scrap within the next seven days.

"It's a little tweak but it's okay now," he said. "I should be back in the next week and it's my first hamstring problem so I've just got to be careful because I want to play a couple of games before the end of the season."

Home form to prove key for Tonbridge

TOMMY Warrilow says a measured approach is required as his Tonbridge Angels side look to extend their superb home record this weekend.

Angels have lost only one of their last 16 games at Longmead and should the trend continue it will underpin a top-five finish in the Ryman Premier Division.

Tooting & Mitcham arrive having conceded seven goals in their last two games, but Warrilow, the Tonbridge manager, has warned his players against trying to go all-out attack.

"Teams will come to us and try to frustrate us," he said. "It's important we don't go gung-ho and get caught because we could come away with nothing."

"Tooting, on their day, are a good side, and we'll treat them the same as Lowestoft or



Picture: DAVE COULDRIDGE

WELL-EARNED: Tonbridge picked a point up at Lowestoft Town last weekend

Sutton. If we think any differently, we're going to come unstuck."

The trip to Lowestoft saw Angels emerge

with a well-earned point after a goalless draw in which both sides missed good opportunities to grab a winner.

As the season enters its final four weeks, Warrilow admitted he is no closer to solving the conundrum of how many points will be needed for Angels to clinch a play-off spot.

"I think we need to go for six wins, hand on heart," he said. "I've read reports saying we need three wins, but I don't know if that's enough, because this league is so ridiculous. "Someone has obviously sat down and looked at the table, but I've haven't; I'm fed up of looking at it because it's so tight."

Warrilow is likely to be without the injured trio of Lewis Taylor, Lee Browning (both knee) and John Beales (ankle), although Chris Henry could make his debut after recovering from a tweaked hamstring.

League and cup double on horizon

Pictures: NICK DUNGAN



DOUBT: Jamie Stoor has a knee injury

TONBRIDGE Juddians have Kent Cup holders Gravesend in their sights after sweeping past Blackheathens in last weekend's semi-final at The Slade.

The hosts sent out a clear statement of intent as they romped to a 46-16 victory over the second-string side representing National 1 club, Blackheath.

With the London 1 South title in the bag, TJs are already guaranteed to meet the Gs on a level-footing in the National League next season, but head coach Peter Dankert says his players only have eyes for the cup final on May 1.

"It sends out a message to Gravesend because it lets them

know we are serious about winning this competition," he said. "We'll have to play well against them because they're doing very well in the league above us."

"On paper, [Blackheathens] would be a side near the top end of our league without doubt. Whenever our boys play better quality opposition, they perform to that level and it was very pleasing to see we'll be able to step up to the next division."

"They were a little bit over-confident, whooping and hollering, and when they took an early lead you'd have thought they'd just won the World Cup."

"We settled into our rhythm and pattern and we really took them apart up front, so I'm very

proud of the lads for doing a great job on an experienced bunch of front-row forwards."

Dankert singled out Christophe Blom and Charlie Harding for particular praise in a game which also marked a first-team debut for Oli Collingham. Having moved to the area from Nottingham, the back-row player signed for TJs two days after the February transfer deadline, but his club registration means he is eligible to play cup games.

This weekend, TJs play their penultimate London 1 South fixture as they travel to Portsmouth with almost a full-strength squad. Jamie Stoor (knee) is the only injury doubt.



CONTROVERSY: Keelan Mooney (right) was brought down but referee said he 'dived'

Larkin throws a 'Fergy' after ref fails to blow up

Tunbridge Wells 0
Norton Sports 1

MARTIN Larkin was left seething after his Tunbridge Wells side were denied a stone-wall penalty on their way to defeat against Norton Sports on Tuesday night.

The home side were already behind when Keelan Mooney pounced on a defensive blunder and ran unchallenged into the box before rounding Norton goalkeeper Nick Shaw and going to ground.

As Larkin and his players waited for the whistle and the inevitable red card for Shaw, referee Chris Dodd waved play on to the amazement of almost everyone inside Culverden Stadium.

"It was a game-changer," Larkin said. "I spoke to the referee and he said he's dived, but if he's dived he's got to book him and he hasn't. He's gone clean through on goal, taken it round the goalkeeper and there's contact. Everyone in the ground has seen it and he's not given it, so he shouldn't be refereeing at this level."

"At this level, I don't work 30 or 40 hours a week for this club to have people miss things like that. It's just not on, to be honest."

Norton's winning goal arrived on 26 minutes when Joe Sands sped down the left wing and crossed for Andy Irvine to glance a header home via the inside of the far post.

The Wells' created little in the way of clear-cut chances, although Rob Wells should have equalised in the second-half when he connected with a Jack Harris cross, but wastefully failed to hit the target.

Wells sweat over Hoooley

Hamstring injury could see top scorer miss out on trophy final

By **STEVE Tervet**

TUNBRIDGE Wells are facing a "race against time" to get star striker Carl Cornell fit in time for next Sunday's Kent Senior Trophy final against Erith Town.

Cornell, known as 'Hoooley', already has 22 goals to his name in all competitions, but a hamstring injury is threatening to rule him out of the Wells' biggest game of the campaign.

Having limped off 20 minutes into Saturday's 5-0 defeat at Herne Bay, Cornell played no part as the Wells were beaten 1-0 by Norton Sports at Culverden on Tuesday night.

Manager Martin Larkin admits Cornell's chances of playing in the final are slim, although the striker's fitness is just one of several problems plaguing the Wells squad.

"Hoooley's massive for us," Larkin said. "His partnership with Keelan [Mooney] is one of the best in the league and we are in a race against time to get him fit. We are missing a lot of players and the run of six games in 18 days is too much for them, because we've run out of energy."

"We're in a very difficult place at the moment. The league's very important to me and it always has been, but we need to be aware of what the cup final means and we need to protect a couple."

"Hoooley will be getting treatment every day, it's a bad hamstring so we'll see how that comes around. I've got some great lads here and they've given us everything for the last couple of months, but we've worked really hard and I just hope we've got a little bit left in the tank."

Larkin's injury list lengthened on Tuesday when goalkeeper Michal Czanner had to come off with a thigh injury, meaning youth team stopper Callum Hampson is likely to start Saturday's league game at Lordswood.

Jason Bourne is close to recovering from an



KEY PLAYER: Carl Cornell has scored 22 goals for Tunbridge Wells this season

ankle knock, but Larkin is hoping to keep his skipper under wraps until the cup final. Jon Pilbeam (foot) and Perry Spackman (groin) are also some way from full fitness, while midfielder Drew Crush and Tom Davey will both miss the Lordswood game as they are away due to work commitments.

Larkin's focus has always been bettering last season's seventh-placed finish in the Kent League, but for now, he is simply looking to come through Saturday unscathed.

"You're taking established Kent League players out of the team and with our set-up, you can't do that," he said. "It's a nice tight pitch down there and it will be a similar kind of game [to Norton]. They'll see us and think 'they play well against the pretty teams and not against the big teams' so no doubt they'll do what they do and we need to work hard."



NAIL-BITING: Mike Catt is awaiting news on his Cranbrook side's relegation fate

Cranes' chances of avoiding drop hang in balance

CRANBROOK head into the final weekend of the season knowing victory over Folkestone could yet see them avoid relegation.

Uncertainty has engulfed the Cranes' campaign over the past few weeks and director of rugby, Mike Catt, admits he still does not know what a win on Saturday would mean for his side.

Second-bottom in London 3 South East, Cranbrook looked certain to finish in the relegation places, but the side immediately above them, Crawley, now look to have been dragged into the dogfight.

Catt explained: "We're hearing rumours all the time that Crawley have been deducted points, so Saturday's game could be important, but we just don't know. A win could be enough to keep us up, but it depends what happens in other leagues."

Folkestone will finish comfortably in mid-table, irrespective of Saturday's result, although Catt knows better than to underestimate the visitors.

"We've picked as strong a side as we can but it's all up in the air," he said. "We just don't know what attitude they'll come down with but I would think, at this level, most teams are still going for it. We'll go with the attitude that we need to win the game."

RUGBY LEAGUE TABLES

LONDON 1 SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	PD	BP	Pts
1 Tonbridge Juddians	24	23	0	1	+728	19	111
2 London Irish Amateur.....	24	19	2	3	+416	18	98
3 Chichester.....	24	19	2	3	+468	17	97
4 Haywards Heath.....	24	14	1	9	+223	13	71
5 Beckenham.....	24	13	3	8	+152	10	68
6 Dover.....	24	12	1	11	+111	17	67
7 Portsmouth.....	24	12	2	10	-15	11	63
8 Sutton & Epsom.....	24	10	2	12	+21	15	59
9 Thanet Wanderers.....	24	10	2	12	-177	7	51
10 Cobham.....	24	10	1	13	-132	8	50
11 Hove.....	24	9	0	15	-77	14	50
12 Wimbledon.....	24	6	1	17	-443	6	32
13 Tunbridge Wells	24	1	1	22	-667	2	8
14 Chobham.....	24	0	2	22	-762	3	7

LONDON 2 SOUTH EAST

1 Old Elthamians.....	21	19	0	2	+546	15	91
2 Aylesford Bulls.....	20	16	0	4	+254	9	73
3 Lewes.....	21	15	0	6	+267	12	72
4 East Grinstead.....	21	15	1	5	+479	15	62
5 Sevenoaks	21	12	0	9	+280	14	62
6 Brighton.....	20	11	1	8	+47	11	57
7 Old Dunstonians.....	21	7	1	13	-36	10	40
8 Warrington.....	21	7	0	14	-256	6	34
9 Old Mid-Whitgiftian.....	21	4	2	15	-499	5	25
10 Deal & Betseshanger.....	21	7	1	13	-70	8	23
11 Purley John Fisher.....	21	0	21	0	-874	2	-3
12 Maidstone.....	21	8	0	13	-138	6	-12

LONDON 3 SOUTH EAST

1 Heathfield & Waldron.....	21	19	0	2	+365	16	92
2 Charlton Park.....	21	18	2	1	+469	14	90
3 Crowborough.....	21	17	1	3	+396	17	87
4 Medway.....	21	13	0	8	199	14	66
5 Park House.....	21	10	2	9	17	12	56
6 Folkestone.....	21	10	0	11	47	10	50
7 Eastbourne.....	21	10	1	10	-72	8	50
8 Bromley.....	21	7	1	13	-84	7	37
9 Horsham.....	21	6	2	13	-146	32	30
10 Crawley.....	21	5	5	16	-327	8	28
11 Cranbrook	21	4	0	17	-303	6	22
12 Dartfordians.....	21	2	1	18	-561	2	12

SATURDAY'S FIXTURES

LONDON 1 SOUTH: Portsmouth v **Tonbridge Juddians**;
Tunbridge Wells v Thanet Wanderers
LONDON 2 SOUTH EAST: **Sevenoaks** v Old Dunstonians
LONDON 3 SOUTH EAST: **Cranbrook** v Folkestone

Youngsters fire side into Kent Plate final

YOUNG talent is providing real cause for optimism at St Mark's after a Tunbridge Wells side filled with teenagers cruised past Aylesford Bulls to reach the Kent Plate final.

The Wells fielded several untested school-boys alongside more experienced squad members for the tie last weekend, which saw the club run out 58-10 winners.

While the season will ultimately be remembered as one which saw the Wells relegated to London 2 South East, chairman Roger Clarke said progress in the Plate had offered real encouragement.

He said: "We had seven first-teamers out in the first-half and five in the second-half, so it gave us a chance to bring in quite a few youngsters who joined us from schools, but weren't registered for league rugby."

"I think we learnt that if you give our guys an

extra yard, the standard of passing and the ability to turn the ball over is much improved. We looked like a reasonable side and that's a compliment to [coach] Jim Scully, who's worked with over 60 different players this season."

Scrum-half Max Edmonton and second-row Joe Nicol both impressed in the semi-final, but the home side's joy was tempered when Sam O'Leary left the field with a broken collar bone.

The Wells go on to face Thanet Wanderers in the Plate final on May 1 and the east Kent side also provide the opposition at St Mark's this weekend as Scully's team bid to avoid the London 1 South wooden spoon.

Ollie Lewis-Donaldson has returned from a spell away travelling and will feature on Saturday, while Wes Bryce-Borthwick is also available.



IMPRESSIVE: Joe Nicol was in fine form for Wells in the Kent Plate semi-final

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APRIL 2011

Let nature inspire your
style to shine through

The disco glam of
the Seventies is back

**Look special
this spring**

welcome to **retail** therapy

It is, of course, the time when fashion and style come into their own. After the cold, dreary months of winter, we can forget about our clothes being practical or functional.

It's spring, and it's time to let our creative dreams and desires run riot – and there's nowhere better to showcase our tastes than in the clothes we wear.

Luckily, here in Kent, we are blessed with some of the finest shopping centres in the country.

From Park Mall and County Square in Ashford to Folkestone's Bouverie Place, Fremlin Walk in Maidstone and Thanet's Westwood Cross, Kent

really does have something for every discerning shopper.

And just a very short distance away, there's Lakeside in Thurrock for yet more choice.

Additionally, don't forget the independent retailers, which can offer so much individuality.

And that's where Retail Therapy comes in. This first edition is a celebration of the extraordinary array of shopping opportunities available to people living in Kent.

It is a colourful collection of what the different centres have to offer combined with tips and guidance on what's cool, what's hot and – quite simply – how to look your very best.

We hope you savour reading Retail Therapy as much as we've enjoyed putting it together.

this issue

3

The spring look

5

Bright and bold

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Spring into a season of **rich colour**

Give your wardrobe a new lease of life with spring and summer fashions. We reveal how to tap into the hottest trends of the new season.

By **Lisa Haynes**

WINTER blues still lingering into early spring? Fear not, the real sunshine months are just a hop, skip and jump away and the fashion for the summer season is more uplifting than ever.

If fruity prints, super brights and Studio 54 glamour don't see off the winter gloom, nothing will.

Embrace the top trends to put a spring in your step.

Luisa De Paula, buying and merchandising director for my-wardrobe.com, reveals her easy-to-wear tips to make your transformation to summer goddess a cinch.

Dazzling brights

Make a splash with this season's paintbox colour palette of rainbow brights and acid neons.

Worn as a bold head-to-toe hue, or clashing colours, this is the easiest way to warm your wardrobe for the season.

"Embrace this season's brights with neon pinks and cobalt blues in a simple shift dress or team an orange T-shirt or tank with mustard shorts and a red belt," De Paula suggests.

For an easy take on the trend, contrast your chosen shade against black or

white or use an eye-catching bright accessory for a pop of colour.

Seventies chic

There's always a decade that dominates the catwalks but this season the fashion world has been well and truly seduced by Seventies fever.

From button-through denim skirts and safari suits through to floaty flares and wide-brimmed hats, transport yourself back in a style time machine.

De Paula says: "Seventies is one of the biggest stories for this season. Invest in jumpsuits, maxi dresses, flare and boot cut jeans and trousers, and elongate those legs with a killer platform shoe or wedge."

From relaxed hippy style to Studio 54 glamour, the decade is jam-packed with retro inspirations so you can channel a different Seventies icon every day.

Natural beauty

No nudes or neutral shades in sight for this trend. Grab your binoculars and take your cue from a wild tropical garden with bold insect, fruity or floral references.

"When Prada and Stella McCartney's collections were unveiled, fruit prints became the surprise hit of the season," De Paula explains. "Vibrant banana and cherry prints feature alongside bold florals."

Ditch the dainty look and stick to eye-

catching bright prints to blossom.

Keep your accessories pared down to let your extravagant printwork do all the talking, or look for printed accessories for a subtle flutter of wildlife.

Smart sports

Don't fret if your gym membership hit the skids in the first week of January.

Some of that redundant sportswear might just translate into this season's slick sporty look. In reality, the look is more runway minimalist than running track sweaty.

De Paula reveals: "One of the more relaxed spring/summer trends, luxurious summer knits are layered over shorts and loose slacks. Cropped jackets are given a modern, sporty edge with toggles and mesh detailing."

Maxi magic

If shorts and minis aren't for you, maximise your look with floor-sweeping dresses and skirts.

From parachute silk dresses through to no-fuss column styles, maxi lengths have real longevity for the season ahead.

"There's a move from the usual boho styling to more of an elegant and cool look by layering knits and plain colour T-shirts over maxi skirts and smartening up long dresses with belts and blazers," suggests De Paula.

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£46

Suede skirt
£60

at Topshop
www.topshop.com
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£50

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The future's bright – so step into the light

Break out the sunglasses and embrace block brights. Lisa Haynes explores how to introduce bold colour to your spring wardrobe.

NO matter if the sun is being a little shy this spring, the fashion gods have just the brightening tonic.

From canary yellow, shocking pink and zingy tangerine to neons, if you dare, colour blocking is the craze that's sending shop floors into rainbow bright territory.

Forget the nudes, neutrals and bland shades of winter, the technique of clashing bright separates together is this season's biggest colour craze.

Catwalks were awash with bold hues, from sumptuous jewel tones at Gucci through to garish neons at Christopher Kane. There were top-to-toe colour splashes at Lanvin and Miu Miu, plus mix'n'match shades at Jil Sander and Diane Von Furstenberg.

Designer Roksanda Ilincic said: "I think the move towards bright colour is a natural reaction to the predominance of neutral colours we have seen for a while."

So ditch your dark side and lighten up this spring with a riot of dazzling colour.

Shade shy

Blinkered towards super-safe black? Open your eyes to just how flattering colour can be.

"Through clever combinations the right colours can give the impression of a slimmer you," reveals Colour Me Beautiful's Veronique Henderson.

As a general rule, wear darker colours on your problem zones and place brighter punchy shades on your best assets as a distraction method.

One colour from head to toe also gives the illusion of height, if you're lacking in the feet and inches department.

Start off the easy way by choosing a piece in one vibrant shade, such as a dress. As your style bravery soars, introduce accessories in different block colours such as a bag or shoes. Before you know it, you'll be positively addicted to colour.

Blockbuster

If your experimental side is itching to get 'colour blocking', you can expect endless wardrobe choices – and compliments.

Henderson says: "Careful consideration of how you put colours together will not only help to make you look slimmer, but create a workable wardrobe of fewer clothes with more wearable combinations."

The simplest way to work brights this

season is via a shirt in one bold colour. Stay safe by teaming with a wearable neutral skirt or trousers, or be playful and contrast with a contrasting colour separate for a trend-led look.

If the thought of colour combining seems like hard work, look for a statement piece that does all the blocking for you, mixing together bold panels of all your favourite shades.

Colour creative

Those who are already self-confessed colour magpies will need to up the ante to stand out from the crowd.

Brace yourself – the colour palette of choice for anti-wallflowers is neon.

"Fluoro colour has traditionally been associated with street fashion and the youth market," explains Vogue fashion director Lucinda Chambers. "But this season fluoro grew up, from the vivid laser-cut leather at Christopher Kane to the feminine brights at Proenza Schouler."

The key to working super-brights is clean, elegant cuts that will stop you looking like an overgrown teenager.

Turn heads with a full-on neon ensemble or simply introduce shots of eye-popping colour with accessories. If you want to go somewhere in between, look for an easy-wear staple like a top that will add instant punch to any outfit.

Rainbow brights

Tempted to add an injection of colour to your wardrobe? Henderson from Colour Me Beautiful has this advice on the summery shades to be seen in:

Beautiful blues: A safe colour most people enjoy wearing. It's also known to have healing and calming effects on the wearer.

Radiant reds: Reds are wonderfully energising colours – a red raincoat is a great addition to any wardrobe to cheer up a dull day.

Sublime citrus: These are sunshine colours; if they don't work with your colouring, try lighter greens to achieve the same effect.

Sea greens: Warm greens have a yellow undertone while cool greens tend to be more blue. These tropical shades like aqua and turquoises lift any neutrals.

Pretty pinks: Every woman needs feminine pinks in her wardrobe but getting the right shade is essential to avoid looking too girly.



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Follow nature's way to **new heights of fashion**

Mimic an overgrown garden with this season's trend for blooms, bugs and birds. Lisa Haynes goes on fashion's nature trail.

at Next
www.next.co.uk
Picture: PA Photo/Next



Bird print top
£22

NATURE has always been a big inspiration for spring trends, but this season designers have gone utterly wild for it.

Forget dainty blooms and freshly mown lawns and think bountiful overgrown back garden.

Catwalks came alive for spring, with a fully fertilised reference to all things natural – bold fruits, super-sized blooms, birds in flight and oh-so fashionable bug infestations.

Celebrities Alexa Chung, Rihanna and Lily Allen have all been sporting garden-esque print gowns on the red carpets.

Essentially, this is a trend that's all about having fun with prints.

Steer well clear if you're more of a wallflower, an injection of these larger-than-life patterns is the easiest way to wake up your wardrobe this season.

British summertime is officially under way so take inspiration from the great outdoors and pack a punch with your favourite print. Whether you're a fruity girl or a floral fanatic, there's a mini trend to suit.

If you usually stick to block colour, go wild this season and follow fashion's nature trail. No hiking boots necessary.

Fruit cocktail

Tangerine, lime and lemon aren't only hot colours for this season, the fruit brigade have made their mark on prints too.

While Prada had fun with bold bananas, Stella McCartney wowed with citrus fruits and things got a little juicy at Betsey Johnson with strawberry, pineapple and grape references.

These mouth-watering fruity prints add a retro edge to spring pieces. Think Katy Perry kitsch and you're on the right track.

Go as bold as you dare with this look, from dainty

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berries and cherries to super-sized lemons and apples.

If you like the concept but think you'll look more 'fruitcake' than fruity fashionista, use accessories. And if Charlotte Olympia's £950 fruit platforms push your budget, try the affordable range of fruity trinkets and charms on the high street to add a quirky edge.

Winged wonder

Creatures of the sky will have you flying to the top of the style charts this summer.

Butterflies and birds are the carefree way to do this season's natural selection.

Alexander McQueen's catwalk gowns and heels flaunted life-sized butterfly appliques and Miu Miu showcased a graceful swan print dress.

Fear not if you feel like a shy fashion chrysalis, these prints are much more subtle than other nature-inspired trends with repetitive mini swallow patterns or sheer, delicate butterfly looks.

Forget structured workwear-style pieces, this trend works best with casual looks like floaty summer dresses or blouses for a nod to Seventies hippy chic.

Watch the birdie; if you want to go more adventurous with the aviary obsession, you'll be tweeting for joy with bolder bird-of-prey prints.

Bug life

No matter if you have an aversion to creepy-crawlies. Keep the bug spray and fly swat at bay because insects are this season's surprise fashion hit.

With flowers and fruits big on the nature trail of prints, it's no surprise that insects

have crawled their way into this season's fashion agenda.

Fun and unusual, even arachnophobics and insect squealers can indulge in this quirky print trend.

From teeny ladybirds and dainty dragonflies to eye-catching bugs and beetles, just make sure your insects are colourful. Go too monochromatic or dark and you're at risk of stepping into spooky Halloween territory. This season's insects are ideal for curvy girls who should avoid extremely busy prints and opt for scattered styles to flatter your figure.

Floral bouquet

There's only one way to come up smelling of roses this season... super-sized blooms. These floral prints look like they've spent a Mediterranean summer growing in a hothouse.

Erdem, D&G and Cacharel's catwalks were blooming with vibrant colour using uber-bold florals, and the high street has followed suit with overgrown-style prints.

Just like a wild bouquet, this is one trend where mixing up your blooms by clashing two different prints can look like a professional arrangement if put together well – just make sure the colours and tones still complement each other without being too matchy-matchy.

Take inspiration from Alexander McQueen's applique and try pop-up flower details on occasionwear dresses or shoes for a real summer talking point.

Who needs a man to buy you flowers when you've got a whole fashion garden to pick from?



Multi bug print vest
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at Dorothy Perkins
www.dorothyperkins.com
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What goes around comes around

Step into a style time machine and transport yourself back to the hippy boho and disco glamour of the Seventies.

By **Lisa Haynes**

If there's one trend dominating this season's silhouettes, colours and accessories, it's the spirit of the Seventies.

Designers went back in time with a catwalk tribute to the era featuring big flares, big hair and even bigger floppy hats and platform soles.

While Marc Jacobs, Louis Vuitton and Pucci flaunted glamorous brights and disco hedonism, the likes of Etro and Ferragamo opted for stripped back safari neutrals.

"I learned about fashion during the Seventies," Jacobs said of his influential spring/summer collection.

"There's a beautiful, decadent kind of glamour to that period, so it felt right and fresh to revisit it for young women who didn't experience it the first time."

Don't be put off if you were digging the original trend in your heyday - this season is a stylish celebration of the decade with a modern spin.

From Studio 54 disco to relaxed boho, the era is packed with different inspirations to suit your style.

Try transforming your wardrobe into a Boogie Wonderland of Seventies chic.

Disco glam

Crank up the Donna Summer songs and find your inner disco diva, this take on the trend is all about Seventies glamazons.

'More is more' was Marc Jacobs's mantra as he transformed his catwalk into a dance-floor of

warm bright colours and vivid lurex prints, styled to the max with wild crimped hair, oversized accessories and glitter.

Think Studio 54 and jazz up your evening wear this summer with jewel colours, slinky jumpsuits and glamorous Halston-inspired maxi dresses, topped off with lashings of gold.

Essential items: One shoulder jumpsuit, lurex jersey, shiny gold accessories.

Slick safari

The Seventies wasn't all garish colours and floaty fabrics. Appease the practical side in you with the urban-safari trend.

For a twist on bland office suiting for the summer months, try camel tailoring complete with utility detailing such as a belted waist and endless pockets.

Take inspiration from fashion house Etro who mixed up geometric detailing with colour blocking in a neutral palette of tobacco, chestnut brown, mustard yellow, and burnt ochre.

Keep your silhouette long and lean with leg-lengthening cork or wooden wedges that look equally as fabulous with flared trousers or safari-style rolled up legs.

Essential items: Safari trouser suit, mustard shirt, towering wedges.

Hippy chic

Embrace your bohemian side with a fresh take on the laid-back Seventies.

Flowing folksy dresses and paisley prints have

merged with punk rock to give the classic hippy a modern grunge edge.

The Topshop Unique catwalk looked like Grace Coddington (the retro creative director of American Vogue) tinged with Kate Moss as models strode out in floaty kaftans teamed with skinny trousers and floaty maxi dresses featuring sexy splits.

Go prairie punk by adding a dark suede fringed waistcoat to your outfit. Whatever your take on boho, give a big nod to the trend with this summer's must-have statement accessory, a wide brimmed floppy hat.

Essential items: Print maxi dress, fringed waistcoat, floppy hat.

Love story

If you're daunted by thoughts of Seventies hippies and excess, take inspiration from movie icon Ali MacGraw with understated Love Story-style chic.

Utilise your denim collection if you favour a more simplistic look. Think high-waisted flares teamed with a simple white blouse, as seen at Derek Lam or, once you're feeling brave enough for bare legs, try an A-line button-down denim skirt.

Long, fluid lines with pleat midi skirts will also tap into the minimalist mood. But maintain your Seventies-esque feel with mega-chunky platforms or cork-soled heels.

Essential items: A-line denim skirt, white blouse, platform heels.

Mossy fringed top
£39.99

Matilda full skirt
£24.99

Dawn fedora
£29.99

Kelly platforms
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Photographs courtesy of individual retailers
Below: clothes model's own

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Here at County Square in Ashford we have a great selection of fashion stores to help you update your spring and summer wardrobe, whatever your budget.

This season features a huge range of styles that go from vintage lace and sheer fabrics to an explosion of colour with floral prints and styles heavily influenced by the 1970s. But make sure you also include some key pieces featuring dominant stripes.



Rose print clutch bag
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Judge a look

Ditch the heavy overcoat and embrace the new season with a spring-friendly jacket. Lisa Haynes reveals this season's ultimate outerwear.



Blue hooded jacket
£65

Striped top
£22

Denim shorts
£20

at Next
www.next.co.uk
Picture: PA Photo/Next

ALL eyes might be on Kate Middleton's impending wedding dress but, while we wait patiently for April 29, her choice of outerwear is keeping us fashionably entertained.

One of the future princess's most recent royal visit ensembles, a £650 Burberry trench coat, sold out within a day due to copycat demand - dubbed the 'Middleton effect'.

Worn accessorised with her trademark black boots, she deemed her coat stylish enough to be worn solo - buttoned right through without so much as a glimpse of her outfit underneath.



Model presents an outfit by Burberry Prorsum at London Fashion Week.
Picture: AP Photo / Alastair Grant / PA Photos

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Until it's warm enough to go sans le jacket in high summer, your spring cover-up is just as important as your winter coat in being the first thing that anyone sees. And without the need for warmth insulation, spring jackets offer even more room for experimentation with on-trend silhouettes and dramatic shades.

This season has seen an influx of rainbow bright macs and bold print trenches on the high street to make choosing your outfits even easier in the mornings.

With jackets this good, make like Kate and let your outerwear do all the talking.

The classic

Meet the trench, the transitional wonder that will never fade out of fashion.

King of coats Burberry showcased a mac attack catwalk with every variation of the trench imaginable, from snake print to studded sleeves, proving this is one classic with versatility if you want to stray away from the norm.

If your hands are tied to the tried-and-tested model, keep your trench to a neutral tone and you'll have a spring coat that will complement just about any seasonal trend or colour - it looks just as fresh with party dresses as casual denims.

Trend tip: Try adding a block cork heel or wedge to adopt a Seventies Love Story vibe.

Bright and beautiful

There's only one way to stand out from the crowds this spring: get a talking point coat.

Whether it's an uber-bright shade or a punchy print, jackets have had a wallpaper-style makeover.

Think deckchair-inspired stripes, floral explosions and contrast colours if you dare. While Tommy Hilfiger opted for a tangerine trench, Kenzo's collection bloomed with a chrysanthemum print coat.

Unless you want to try the niche trend for clashing prints or bright colours, keep your outfit muted to make your busy jacket the main focus.

Trend tip: Update a tired neutral jacket by adding a splash of colour with a bright belt.

All-weather warrior

With festival season and April showers fast approaching, the high street has gone all practical with an array of weatherproof jackets.

More Glastonbury Festival than Fashion Week, you can adapt just about any trend to your favourite rain beater.

If you love brights, Topshop have a canary yellow shiny hooded mac (£45) that would make any Cornish fisherman green with envy.

It may not be intended as an everyday purchase, but with the turbulent British climate, you're sure to get plenty of wear.

Trend tip: Practical outerwear means you can go wild underneath - team with pretty dresses for a complete contrast.

Off duty chic

Sometimes you need a staple that separates your work wardrobe from your fun time fashion and this season it's the biker jacket.

Banish visions of harsh black leather and hardware zips - this season's shapes come in soft putty shades like cornflower blue, pebble grey and soft peach.

Opt for butter-soft leather or suede in keeping with the casual chic as seen at Alexander Wang. He created a contemporary look by teaming slightly oversized bikers worn open with loose-knit sweaters and boyish cropped pants.

Trend tip: Need sparkle? Adopt some tough luxe with a smattering of multicoloured stud detailing.

Chelsea revival

It's been shelved for more than two decades but Chelsea Girl is due to hit shop floors again. The iconic label is being brought back by River Island - the retailer of the original name before it rebranded in the late 1980s. A temporary 'pop-up' Chelsea Girl shop was due to launch in Selfridges, while a new Chelsea Girl range of vintage-inspired pieces is available in selected stores and online, priced from £12 (www.riverisland.com).

Principles by Ben
de Lisi stripe mac
£65



at Debenhams
www.debenhams.com
Picture: PA Photo/Handout

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at New Look



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T-shirts 2 for **£12.00**
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by Lila
at Dorothy Perkins



B.

Dress **£85.00**
Top **£75.00**
at Monsoon



Shape **up** or ship **out!**

DON'T panic if your New Year diet resolve has already faltered.

The stick insect look is so 2010. This year, aim for a natural body shape and dress yourself slimmer instead.

It's no coincidence that curvy Kelly Brook recently topped a poll to discover the most attractive celebrity with almost half the votes (42 per cent) and voluptuous Nigella Lawson came in second.

Boobs and booty are back in vogue and if there's one phenomenon that's caused fashion designers to turn their back on waif-like frames, it's the Mad Men effect.

The show's star Christina Hendricks even put her assets to good use on the red carpet at the Golden Globes, stashing a borrowed \$850,000 Chopard bracelet down her famous cleavage after misplacing it.

Costume designer for Mad Men, Janie Bryant's motto is "Praise your curves!".

"At the end of every year, most of us vow to jettison our vices and shed a few pounds," Bryant explains. "But what if you resolved

instead to change the way you view your body."

"Finding the style and cut of clothes that suit you best comes from experimentation and knowing your body type," Bryant believes.

Body beautiful

She recommends taking 10 minutes in the mirror to scan yourself from head to toe and observe the outline of your body. Which part is slimmest and which is fullest?

"In order to accentuate those awesome contours, you must first familiarise yourself with your core shape - knowledge is power.

"Once you understand your natural silhouette, it's easy enough to enhance assets or make some nips and tucks with the right wardrobe."

In her new book, *The Fashion File*, Bryant identifies the four key shapes and, just like a New Year diet, the staples you should be indulging in - and avoiding - for a flattering figure.

Your mirror awaits. Determine your body type and check whether your trusty wardrobe separates are flattering your frame...

Delicious apple

"A woman who is an apple carries most of her weight in her

midsection," Bryant explains. "This imbalance can make you look shorter and wider if you don't counteract the proportions."

Your goal is to minimise your tummy and draw eyes to your fabulous legs.

Wardrobe staples: A-line shift dresses, short skirts, blouses with a gently curved waistline, single-button jackets, wrap shirts/dresses and wide-legged trousers. Try long fitted shirts and sweaters that fall to the hips to disguise a full midriff.

Succulent pear

"Just as it sounds, a woman with a pear-shape body stores most of her weight below the waistline," Bryant says.

"Fuller hips and thighs contrast with narrow shoulders, a smaller bust and a slim midriff."

Aim to detract from the hips - the widest point of your silhouette - and focus on your fantastic arms and shoulders.

Wardrobe staples: A-line or full skirts, brightly coloured shirts, patterned blouses and jackets that skim the waist. Flat-front trousers with a wide leg that skim the hips will help make you look taller.

Make the most of your attributes via your wardrobe. Lisa Haynes reveals the secrets to dressing for your body shape.

Slim ruler

"The woman with an athletic, lean build has fewer curves and more of a straight up-and-down figure," says Bryant.

And the good news? "You can wear almost anything."

If you feel your shape is boyish, create some contours and add femininity to your athletic silhouette by accentuating the waist.

Wardrobe staples: Bias-cut jackets, pencil skirts, trapeze dresses, slim-cut trousers. Baby-doll and pussy-bow blouses will inject girliness while belts - skinny or wide - define your waist.

Curvy hourglass

"You have deliciously symmetrical curves, with an exaggerated bust and hip line," Bryant reveals.

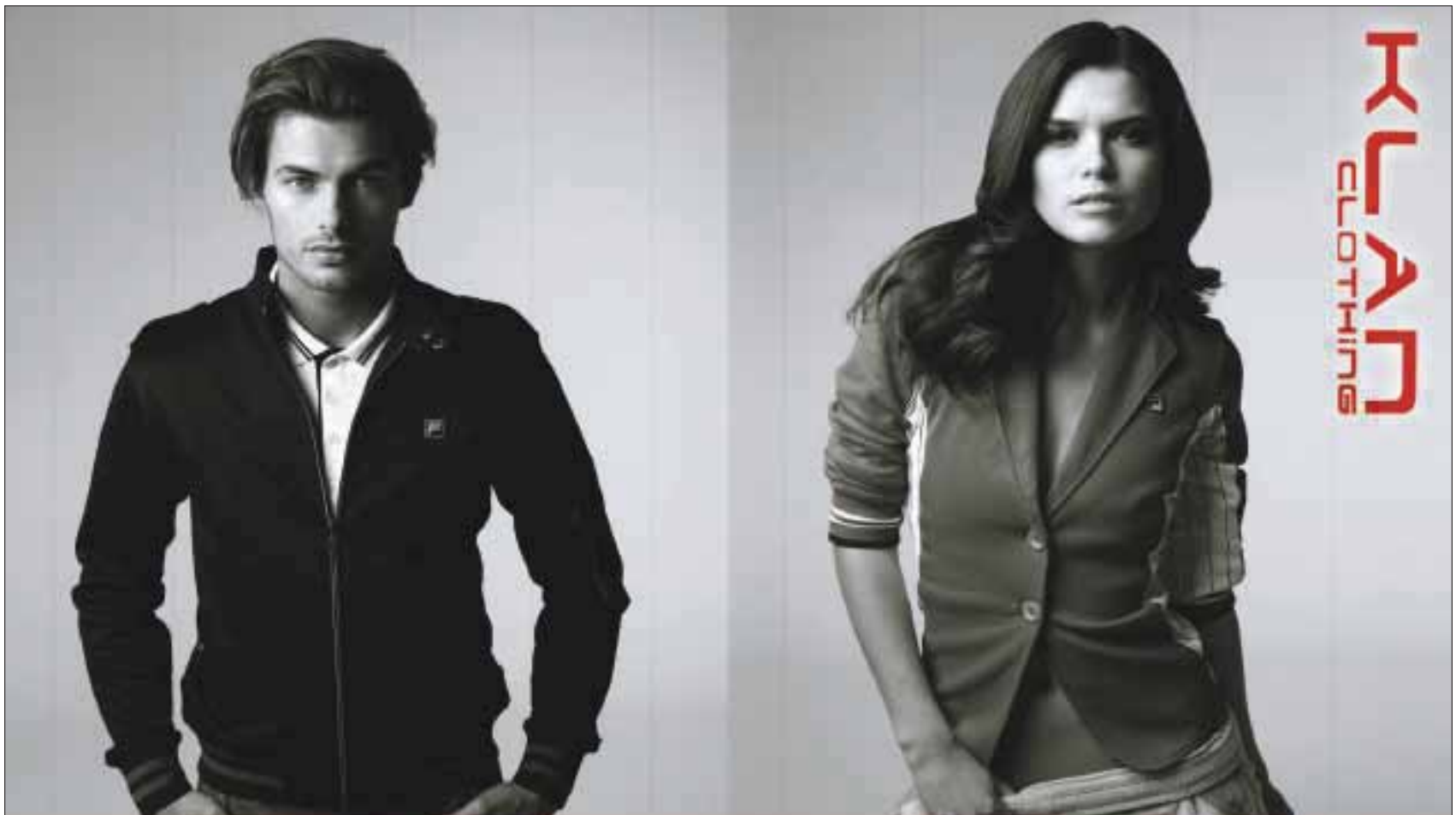
"That narrow waist only heightens the va-va-voom silhouette."

Show off your waist and let it be the focal point of your Jessica Rabbit-style body.

Wardrobe staples: Wrap tops and blouses that nip at the waist, flat-front trousers with a boot-cut or flared bottom, belted jackets or coats. Don't forget a bra with amazing support.



Kelly Brook arriving for the 2010 British Fashion Awards at the Savoy Theatre, London
Picture: Ian West/PA Photos



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